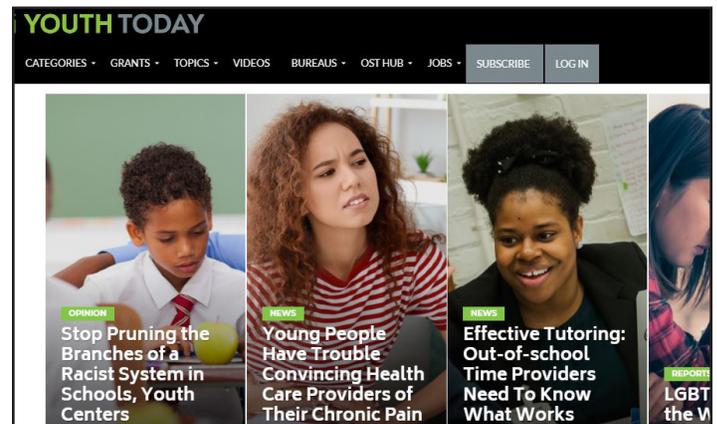


The Michigan Adoption Resource Exchange is a program of Judson Center and is funded by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. To learn about foster care adoption and view photolistings and videos of children, visit our website at www.mare.org.



YOUTH NEWSLETTER Spring 2021

Page 1 - Valuable information online
Page 2 - Get the 411 on recruitment
Page 3 - A word puzzle for this time of year
Page 4 - Youth resources



Did you know ... resources for you

The MARE website has a portal dedicated to youth who are or have been in foster care.

Pages include "For Youth In Care," which includes answers to your common questions and concerns. The "Types of Workers" page describes the various workers assigned to you and what they can do to help you. "Share Your Creativity" encourages you to submit your artwork, poetry or other creative material to be featured in a newsletter, magazine or on social media.

So check it all out by aiming your cursor on the For Youth portal at Mare.org.

More news you can use

Youth Today is an independent newspaper that

reports on issues important to youth and advocates for youth across the country.

Covered topics include child welfare, foster care, mental health and the justice system. Read and learn more at youthtoday.org.

Virtual summer camps

That's right; due to the pandemic there are some virtual summer camps being offered, and the best part is the ones we found at <https://summercamp.hub.com/free-online-summer-camps/> are free.

So if you're interested in a virtual summer diversion excursion, talk to your worker about computer access and getting you signed up.

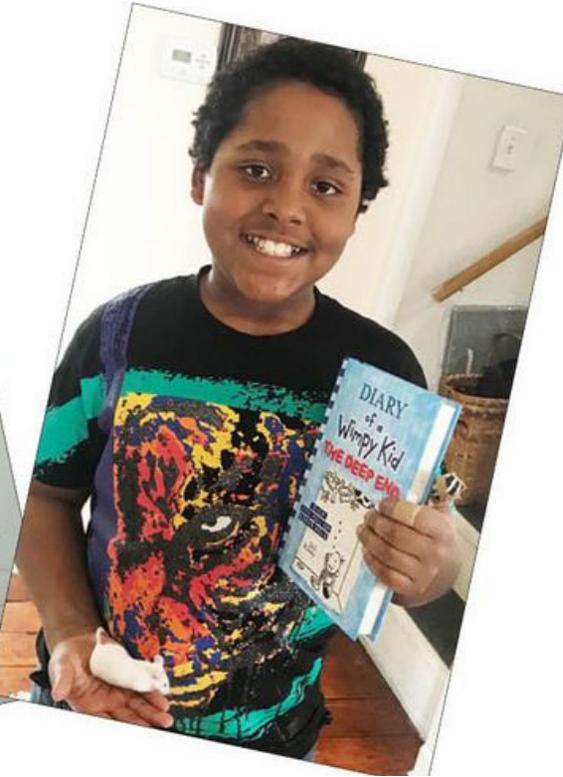
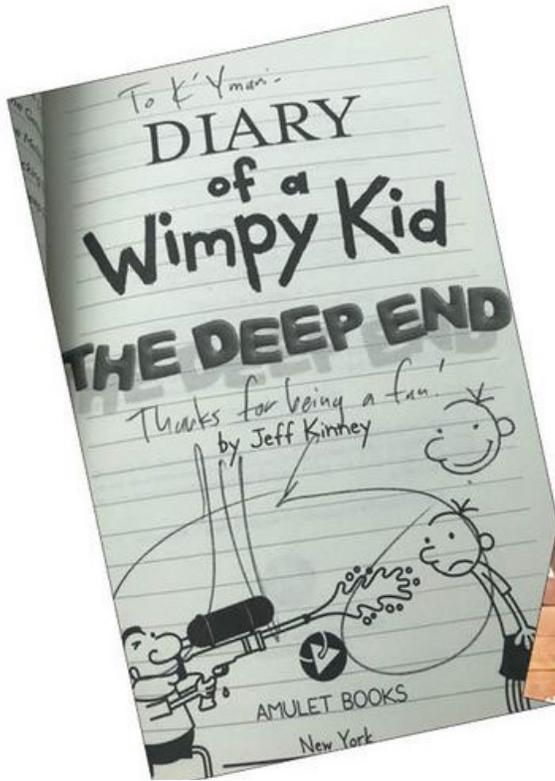
Share your success story!

Fostering Success Michigan is asking for students who are interested in being featured on its website. This is an opportunity for students and professionals alike to read the success stories and learn about supports that helped you and others succeed. The stories will be used as a way to highlight students and their achievements. If you know of any youth or alumni of foster care between the ages of 18 and 24 who are currently enrolled in high school or college, Fostering Success Michigan would love to

hear from them.

Contact the Fostering Success Student Advisor at fostering-info@wmich.edu to have the interview questions sent directly to your inbox.

Fostering Success Michigan is a statewide initiative that aims to increase awareness, access and success in higher education and post-college careers for youth and alumni of foster care (fosteringsuccessmichigan.com).



Diary of a Wimpy Kid author Jeff Kinney saw K'ymani (pictured here) talking about the book series on a video and sent him an autographed copy of one of the books. Videos such as his are not only seen by writers but also adoptive families.

Recruitment? What's that?

Ways to help families understand how wonderful you are!

Every child/youth deserves a family. To make that happen, families who want to adopt need to know about the children/youth who are waiting for forever families.

That's where recruitment comes in. Recruitment means putting information out in publications, on television and online to spread the word and get people interested in adoption. These are great ways for adoptive families to see information about you.

Recruitment also gets more people to think about adopting children.

When your worker and you go over the recruitment booklet and consent form shown at right, make sure you consider your options carefully. The more recruitment options you choose, the more chances you

have to reach adoptive families.

Also, certain types of recruitment options have the potential to reach broader audiences. For instance, Facebook, Twitter and newspaper websites reach a broader audience than MARE's newsletters and periodicals.

They all reach adoptive families, but the social media and newspaper websites have the potential to reach even more. Also, if you choose to be featured on social media or newspaper websites, understand that MARE staff monitor your information to make sure no inappropriate material gets posted to it.

When you pick your recruitment options, make sure you make the choices that will help show adoptive families how wonderful you are.

**CONFIRMATION OF CONVERSATION
YOUTH ADOPTION RECRUITMENT BOOKLET**
(To be completed by youth ages 9 and up who are being featured for adoption recruitment.)

I, _____, age _____ reviewed the Adoption Worker on _____. Below are my preferences regarding recruitment features:

I PREFER TO BE FEATURED in ANY recruitment activities or

I PREFER NOT TO BE FEATURED in any recruitment activities or

I am only interested in being featured in the following ways:

- Quarterly printed recruitment periodical
- Quarterly newsletter feature (family, professional or youth newsletter)
- Social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram)
- Recruitment video on MARE website
- Heart Gallery display
- Newspaper article/feature
- Television Spotlight
- MARE promotional materials (calendar, fliers, posters)
- Faith Community Outreach (prayer cards, bulletin features)
- Other suggestions: _____

This form is valid for one (1) year from the date signed.

Youth Signature _____ Date _____

Worker Signature _____ Date _____

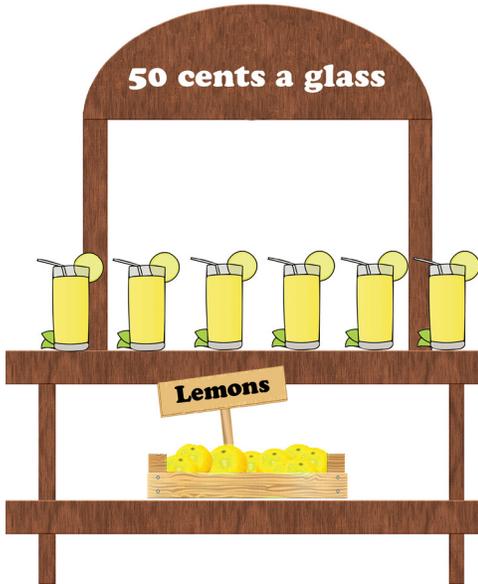
Please send completed form to MARE at:
3840 Packard Road, Suite 170, Ann Arbor, MI 48108
or fax to 734-794-2962.

A word puzzle about warm weather

See if you can figure out these things associated with warm weather.

For clues and answers, turn to page 4.

Number 1,
two words



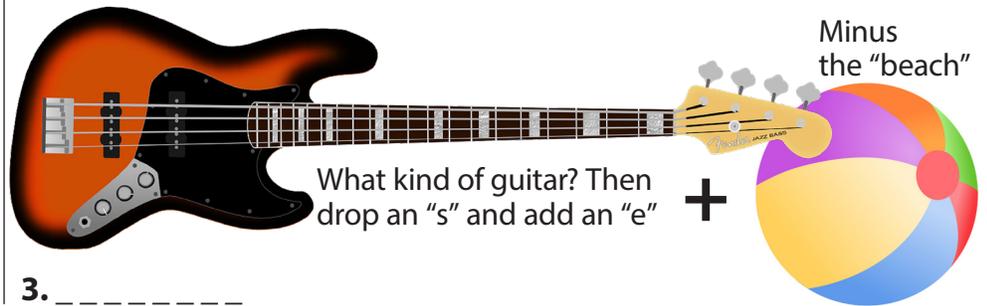
1. _____

Number 2, two words



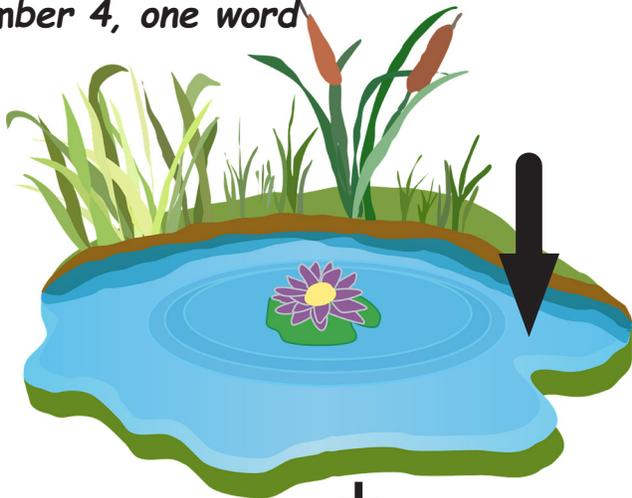
2. _____

Number 3, one word

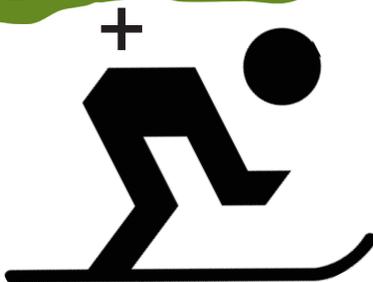


3. _____

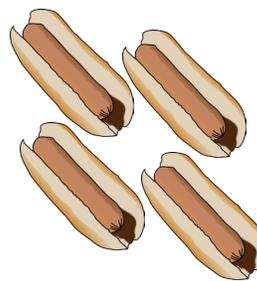
Number 4, one word



4. w _____ g

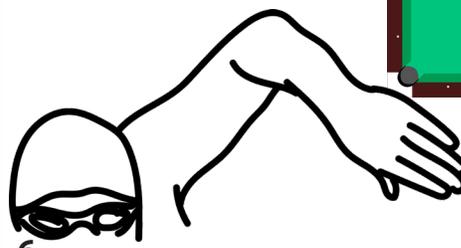


Number 5, five words (two shown)



5. _____ s on the _____

Number 6,
two words



6. _____

Upcoming Virtual Meet & Greets

Saturday, June 12
MARE Meet & Greet
10:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Thursday, June 24
MARE Meet & Greet
5:45-7 p.m.

For more information regarding these events, contact your worker.

Clues

1. A place to sell a lemony drink.
2. A bad storm is coming.
3. Sport of the Tigers.
4. It's done on a lake behind a boat.
5. Frankfurters **on the** rhymes with "chill."
6. Water exercise (and) rhymes with "cool."

Answers

1. Lemonade stand
2. Tornado warning
3. Baseball
4. Water skiing
5. Hot dogs **on the** grill
6. Swimming pool

YOUTH RESOURCES



FosterClub - FosterClub is a national network for young people in foster care and young foster care alumni. The site includes blogs from current foster youth, success stories from youth who were in the foster system as well as celebrities who experienced foster care. It also provides a listing by state of contact information for professionals and hotlines.
(www.fosterclub.com 503-717-1552)



Michigan Youth Opportunities Initiative - MYOI is a partnership between the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, the Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative, the Oakland/Livingston Human Services Agency and many other local community partners. MYOI's goal is to ensure that young people in foster care have successful outcomes in housing, education, employment, community engagement and health.
(michigan.gov/FYIT > MYOI)



Foster Youth in Transition - MDHHS website geared towards older youth who are experiencing foster care. It's a comprehensive, youth-oriented site with advice, interactive features, a useful glossary of foster care terms, and information on a variety of issues important to current and former foster youth. The site provides links on how to develop supports, find services, get answers to important questions and just keep you posted on what's new.
(www.michigan.gov/fyit)

For more information on getting involved with these organizations, contact Jen Brooks at jennifer_brooks@judsoncenter.org or 734-528-2061.