

# The Coop Scoop

Pioneer Springs.... where learning comes *naturally!*

[www.pioneersprings.org](http://www.pioneersprings.org)

## 2023-2024 School Year Supply Lists

The start of the school year is right around the corner, and stores are already gearing up for back-to-school shopping! Please check the Pioneer Springs website for supply lists, or [click here](#). Alternatively, navigate to [TeacherLists.com](http://TeacherLists.com), or [click here](#), and buy your supplies online with one-click shopping.

Please remember that all students need to come to school dressed for outdoor learning and to bring mud boots, a change of clothes, and a water bottle.

Additionally, we strongly encourage upper school students to bring their own laptop or Chromebook daily.



### Important Dates



**August 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>**  
2023-2024 Orientation  
for New & Returning  
Families

**August 22<sup>nd</sup>**  
First Day of School

**Summer Hours**  
9-2 Weekdays  
  
(704)494-7000



Do you have articles  
you'd like included in  
the Coop Scoop?

Email Heidi Magi  
[heidim@pioneersprings.org](mailto:heidim@pioneersprings.org)



## Middle School Nature Journal Mentors

In early June, Ms. Jen's 7th grade ELA students joined Ms. Karen's Kindergarten class for nature journaling.

The older students paired up with younger students to write and draw about their observations in the Kinder-Garden!



### Did you know...?

Pioneer Springs' mascot is the salamander. Marbled salamanders (*Ambystoma opacum*)—the North Carolina state salamander-- live along the banks of our campus pond! Look for marbled salamanders in leaf litter and under logs. [Learn more here.](#)

## Encouraging Summer Reading

*Practice builds confidence and success*



Summer reading is a key to academic growth. Reading over summer break prevents learning loss, and helps students build their vocabularies and background knowledge. Here are some simple things you can do to encourage your student to read this summer:

- 1. Let young readers choose what they want to read.** Novels, nonfiction books, graphic novels, and magazines all build skills! Free choice builds excitement.
- 2. Have family reading time every day.** Set aside a half hour to read as a family. When your children see you reading, they will be more likely to read themselves.
- 3. Read together.** You could read a book aloud, or choose the same chapter book to read, and discuss the book together.
- 4. Listen to audiobooks.** Hearing others read stories builds fluency and vocabulary.

## Goldfinches in the Garden!

Goldfinches (*Spinus tristis*) have been regular visitors at Croft this summer. Natural acrobats, goldfinches have been known to hang upside down from flowers when eating! Children delight in watching these charming yellow birds forage for seeds, observing them feed their young, and listening to their beautiful songs. If you'd like to attract goldfinches to your yard, plant sunflowers, coneflowers, asters, or thistles. If bird feeders are more your speed, include sunflower seeds or a finch blend. Be sure to provide water for your feathered friends, too!

Do goldfinches frequent your yard? Share photos on Facebook, our Instagram, and be sure to tag our PSCS community, @pioneersprings, #pioneersprings



## SUMMER CAMP SMILES

Campers explored the Garden of Versailles during this week's Appalachian Time Travel Camp.

Art projects included building models of the palace's famous fountains, and recreating van Gogh's Starry Night.

*Summer camps continue through the end of the month. [Click here](#) for more information or to register.*



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