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**MONMOUTH COUNTY PARK SYSTEM'S COASTAL ACTIVITY CENTER
OFFERS RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS**



Children enjoy making a craft during the Coastal Activity Center's after school program.

ASBURY PARK— Have you heard? The Monmouth County Park System's Coastal Activity Center offers great recreational programs for local families to enjoy. Located on Asbury Avenue in Asbury Park, the Center is housed in space leased from the Salvation Army. According to Recreation Supervisor Courtney Bison, "We're here to provide recreational opportunities for urban children and their families. We offer an amazing after school program, exciting trips, and holiday parties. Our emphasis is on having fun, being active, and staying healthy."

During the school year, the Center hosts an after school program from 3-6 p.m. on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays. Open to children in kindergarten through fifth grade, this recreational program features structured gym activities, arts and crafts, and games supervised by Park System staff. The program has an open enrollment (as space permits) and a \$25 fee (payable twice a year). Those interested in participating should call 848-456-4278, ext. 8#.

Children attending the after school program are also invited to enjoy special events such as a Halloween costume party, a spring-themed party, and an end-of-the-year cookout. Upcoming trips include a visit to the Thompson Park Creative Arts Center for ceramics, a morning at Bel-Aire Golf Course to play FootGolf, and an outing to see the Harlem Globetrotters. These trips have an additional fee of \$5 per person per trip.

For middle school students, the Coastal Activity Center offers its Saturday Afternoon Trips (SAT). Upcoming outings planned include a Winter Hike & BBQ, Laser Tag, and the Harlem Globetrotters. These trips cost \$8 per person.

The Coastal Activity Center is just one of the ways that the Monmouth County Park System strives to meet the needs of the county's urban population. The Park System also offers a Recreation Assistance Program which provides programs at a discounted rate and a Mobile Recreation unit which brings sports, games, and arts and crafts activities to locations within urban communities. During the summer, the Park System offers an Extreme Team camp for middle school students from urban communities.

For more information about the Coastal Activity Center or the Monmouth County Park System, please visit www.monmouthcountyparks.com or call the Park System at 732-842-4000. For persons with hearing impairment, the Park System TTY/TDD number is 711. The Monmouth County Park System, created in 1960 by the Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders, is Monmouth County's Open Space, Parks and Recreation agency.