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West Gresham Elementary students help usher in Summer Kids in the Park, an 8-week Gresham parks and recreation and free lunch program for youth 18 and younger.

Summer Kids in the Park

Gresham plans special activities at three parks

Gresham is putting a hop and a skip into summertime with Summer Kids in the Park, an eight-week Gresham Parks and Recreation and free lunch program for all youth 18 or younger.

"We are very excited to be able to provide some much-needed summer

recreational activities in our parks, thanks to our partnership with the Boys & Girls Clubs," Mayor Shane Bemis said. "Our kids deserve them, and our parks will benefit from all the positive energy that kids bring when they are having a great time and making summertime memo-

ries."

From Monday, June 23 through Aug. 15, the Boys & Girls Clubs will run programs for two hours every weekday at Gresham's Main City, Red Sunset and Vance parks -- at no cost to participants. A free lunch through the U.S.

Department of Agriculture's summer lunch program will be served daily.

Staff from the Boys & Girls Clubs will lead a combination of physical and non-physical activities (arts and crafts, field games, etc.), and host occasional special events and guest appearances.

There is no cost to participate. Advance registration is not required - youth may arrive ready to have fun.

Parents and guardians are advised to stay at the park while youth are participating - the summer program is not meant for little ones to be left without supervision. Older children may attend on their own, however, if parents and guardians deem it appropriate for their child.