

# Gather and Play

## Juneteenth at Pocket Park

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THURSDAY, JUNE 19 | 4-5:30 P.M.

Read this short story with your child to  
preview the program together.



Ooh! Ahh! Do you see the beautiful fireworks?



In America, some people celebrate the Fourth of July by watching fireworks.

We celebrate the Fourth of July because we are thankful for our freedom!



People who live in America can decide what kinds of toys to play with and what kinds of books to check out from the library.

They can choose their favorite color, what holidays to celebrate, and what to wear.



They can decide where they want to live, who their friends are, and what kinds of pictures they paint.

But for a long time, only some people in America had freedom. That was a really big mistake that hurt a lot of people.

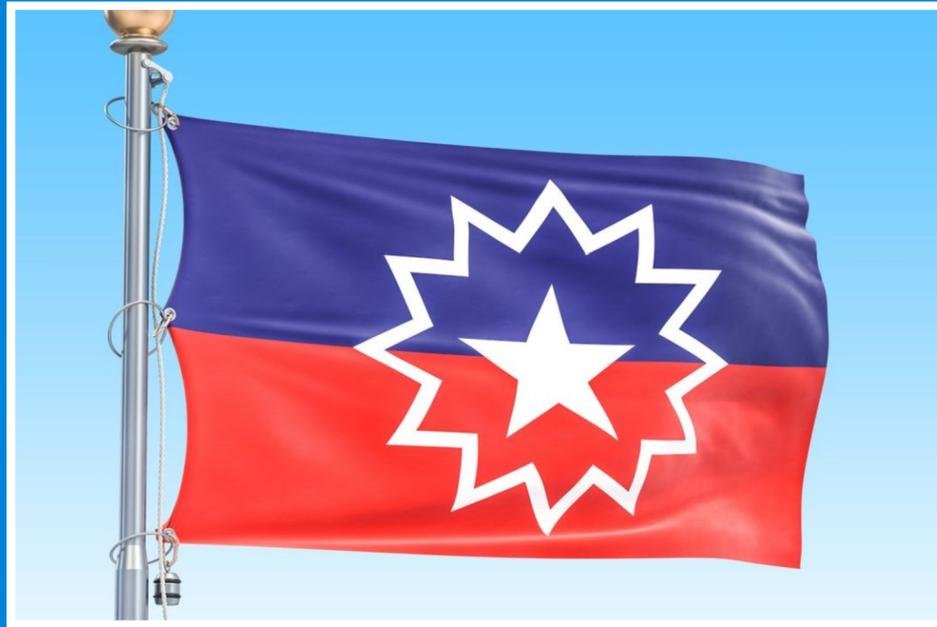
We feel sad when we or someone else is hurt.



Who gives you comfort when you feel sad?

Many people helped change the rules so that everyone could be free.

So we have another holiday called Juneteenth, held on June 19 every year.



This is the Juneteenth flag!

On Juneteenth, we remember the people who were hurt. We remember that freedom is for everyone.

# Freedom is for everyone!

Freedom is for kids with velvety-brown skin and braids!



Freedom is for kids with sandy-colored skin and straight hair!



Freedom is for kids who make silly faces!



Freedom is for kids who like to run!



Freedom is for kids who love to ride bikes!

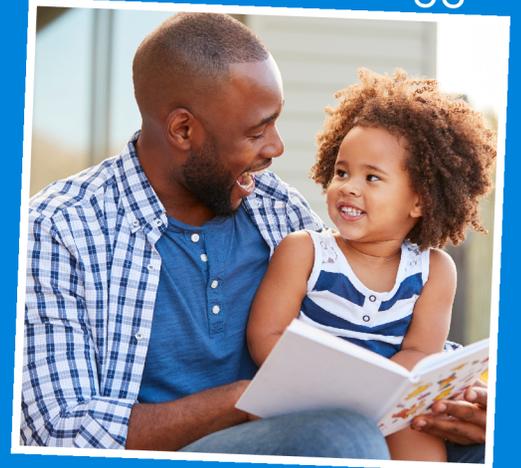
Freedom is for kids who speak many languages!



Freedom is for kids who like trains!



Freedom is for kids who love books and snuggles!



Freedom is for kids who like to play!

Freedom is for YOU!



What color is your skin?  
What do you like to do?

This year, we can remember Juneteenth together by meeting at a park.



*If it rains, we will do some fun activities inside, instead!*

You can choose whether you want to blow bubbles, draw with sidewalk chalk, launch a tiny pop rocket, or play ball.

You can meet friends there, or make new friends.



Isn't it fun that we might be different in some ways, but we can all play together?

Your family has freedom to decide what to do on Juneteenth.



Maybe you will come visit us at  
Mount Prospect Public Library!



We will always be happy to see you.