

WILD ADVENTURES DAY

by Jayne Beer (photos by Jayne)

On April 30 from 10 until 1, Pioneers Park held Wild Adventure Day, a free family event at the Nature Center, sponsored by The Friends of the Pioneers Park Nature Center and the Nebraska Wildlife Federation. There were activities for all ages including special presentations, booths, crafts, and games.

Linda Guenter, Carolyn Ashmore, Brian and Corey Beer, and I set up a table with the Gem Dig. It was a good day for us with lots of kids; they were overflowing into the hall and occupying about every open surface they could find. Several parents enjoyed doing the gem dig, also. It was fun to watch how some of the kids picked out a couple rocks and left, while others had incredible patience, picking out every tiny piece of polished rock they could find.

Other activities at the event included the animal encounter room sponsored by the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District and new additions to the Edna Shield's Natural Play Area for Children. There was a live raptor presentation and the dedication of the newly remodeled play area. At the play area, kids can play and learn in nature. They can dig in the sand and soil, crawl through hollow logs and tunnels or help build a fort in a safe and manageable space. The kids were also able to check out a fossil dig site and a soil tunnel.

Some of the other presenters were the Nebraska Wildlife Federation, Lincoln Children's Zoo, University of Nebraska State Museum, University of Nebraska Microbiology and Entomology departments, UNL Wildlife Club and NU School of Natural Resources, Homestead National Monument, the Nebraska Walleye Association, Lincoln Watershed Management, and the Lincoln Electric System.



The parents appeared more excited than the kid!

