

Summer camps, health, arts, programs keep youth busy

By MARIA D. JAMES
Editorial Assistant

The words "I'm bored," may become the mantra for children unsure of how to fill three months without school.

To avoid this problem, many parents opt to enroll their children in summer camps, and five local programs are available to help solve the summertime blues.

Pastor Pearlle Smith is all too familiar with the "I'm bored," syndrome. As the founder of Restoration Community Development and Empowerment Initiative, Inc., in Hertford, she was concerned when she heard children in the program complain there was nothing to do. She decided to combine fun and education to form a summer youth basketball camp; a first for the organization.

There's also summer camp for children who want to express themselves creatively.

"I give kids lots of credit," said Nolita K. English, owner of WolfLine-Cherokee and Multicultural, Art, Craft and

Gift Emporium in Elizabeth City.

"Kids have a unique curiosity and are receptive to anything new."

English hopes their unique curiosity will make her new

arts and crafts program, for children ages 6 to 15, a hit.

Starting June 22 from 8 a.m. to noon, eight sessions will educate participants on various craft mediums and cultures. The registration fee is

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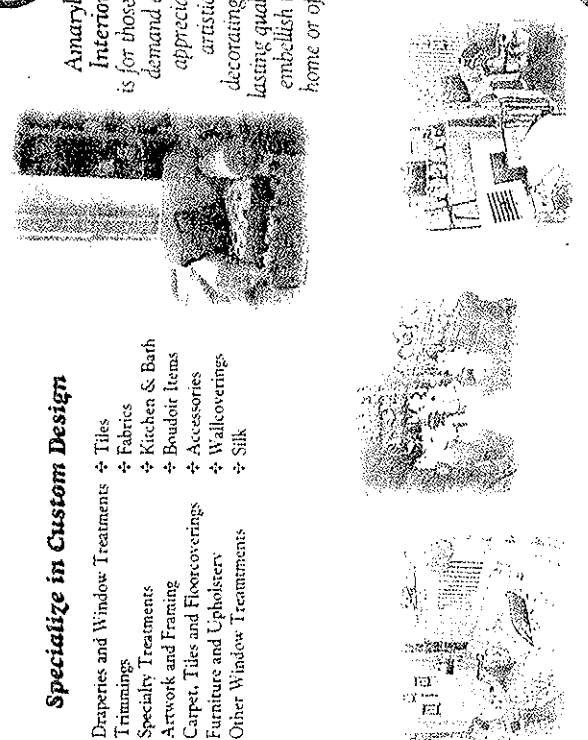
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