

Summer Fun

2009



Valley Drive Cooperative Preschool

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Nature Centers

Alexandria Nature Centers/Programs

Jerome Buddie Ford Nature Center/Dora Kelley Nature Park *FREE*

5750 Sanger Ave., Alexandria, VA
(703) 838-4829

<http://alexandriava.gov/recreation/info/default.aspx?id=12362>

Visit Alexandria's very own Nature Center! At the Nature Center, you can see live animals up close. Naturalists on staff are available to help you and your family explore and enjoy Alexandria's wild side! Just outside the Nature Center lies Dora Kelley Nature Park, a 50-acre wildlife sanctuary with a one-mile long nature trail that meanders along streams, wooded hills, and freshwater marshland.

Winkler Botanical Preserve *FREE*

5400 Roanoke Avenue, Alexandria, VA
(703) 578-7888

This preserve has 44 acres of trails, meadows, streams and ponds. Activities include canoeing, rock climbing, hiking and bird/animal watching. Directions: Take Braddock Road to Beauregard. Go left on Beauregard, left on Roanoke Avenue, past Lynbrook apartments until street ends.

Arlington County Nature Centers/Programs

Gulf Branch Nature Centers *FREE*

Gulf Branch - 3608 N. Military Road, Arlington, VA 22207
(703) 228-3403

<http://www.arlingtonva.us/Departments/ParksRecreation/scripts/nature/ParksRecreationScriptsNatureGulfbranch.aspx>

For a change of pace, take the kids to Gulf Branch Nature Centers (great for rainy days too). In addition to streamside trails for walking in the woods, the nature center has wildlife collections, puzzles and books, animal masks, coloring corners and activity stations – plus lots of bones, shells, rocks, antlers, fungi, branches, pods and cones for touching, smelling and exploring.

Long Branch Nature Center *FREE*

625 S. Carlin Spring Rd, Arlington, VA
(703) 228-6535

<http://www.arlingtonva.us/Departments/ParksRecreation/scripts/nature/ParksRecreationScriptsNatureLongbranch.aspx>

Long Branch has lots of things for families, including nature programs, live animal exhibits, ponds, wooded stream valleys, swamp, meadow and hiking trails. Bring your water shoes and walk through the very shallow creek with your children! Picnic areas available also.

Fairfax County Nature Centers/Programs

Hidden Pond Nature Center

FREE

8511 Greeley Boulevard, Springfield, VA 22152
(703) 451-9588

<http://www.co.fairfax.va.us/parks/hiddenpond>

Hidden Pond Nature Center has acres of undisturbed woodland, quiet trails, splashing streams and a tranquil pond. Situated along the Pohick Stream Valley, the park offers lots of opportunities for exploration and discovery.

Hidden Oaks Nature Center

FREE

7701 Royce St, Annandale, VA
(703) 941-1065

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/nature.htm#15>

The Hidden Oaks Nature Center has wildlife exhibits, tanks with live toads, snakes, and turtles and a touch table with bones, rocks, and other artifacts. Kids can borrow a discovery bag, which has a trail map and activities to do along your 1/4 mile hike. The nearby playground is a great way to end your nature adventure.

Huntley Meadows Park

FREE

3701 Lockheed Blvd, Alexandria, VA
(703) 768-2525

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/huntley/index.htm>

Pack the night before and go as early as possible as the animals are more active in the morning. A stroller will help with the longish walk back to the parking lot. You can look for deer, beaver, herons, snakes, turtles and wild birds. Huntley Meadows lies in a wet lowland of the Potomac River. The resulting freshwater wetlands is one of the rarest habitats left in Fairfax County. Bring sunscreen as the wetlands are not shaded and get hot in the middle of the day.

Discovery Creek Children's Museum of Washington

7300 MacArthur Boulevard, Glen Echo, MD
(202) 488-0627 - or -
2233 Wisconsin Ave N.W. #410, Washington D.C.
202-337-5111

<http://www.discoverycreek.org/>

Discovery Creek Children's Museum is committed to helping all children experience, appreciate, and become stewards of the natural environment. Exciting outdoor environmental programs are offered for babies, toddlers, families, school groups and scouts. Most programs include live animal encounters, art projects, hikes and other hands-on activities.

Gardens

River Farm

FREE

7931 East Boulevard Drive, Alexandria, VA
(703) 768-5700

http://www.ahs.org/river_farm

What used to be one of George Washington's farms is now the home to the American Horticultural Society and an absolutely amazing place to take your kids. Beautiful flowers, hands-on children's garden, and breathtaking views of the Potomac are just a few reasons to visit River Farm. Kids will love digging for worms, camping out in underground tunnels, and looking for hidden topiary alligators, monkeys, and rabbits. Bring a picnic or enjoy a quiet afternoon on benches in the shade.

Green Springs Gardens Park

FREE

4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria, VA
(703) 642-5173

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/gsgp/>

Visitors can explore the Children's Garden with its whimsical bathtub and shower for water plants; custom built potting bench, arbor and pumpkin carriage. An edible corner exhibits blueberries, strawberries, raspberries, and grapes. The garden changes seasonally. They also offer Garden Sprouts, a year-round program offered to the public for children ages 3 to 5.

Meadowlark Gardens Regional Park

\$5

9750 Meadowlark Gardens Court, Vienna, VA
(703) 255-3631

<http://www.nvrpa.org/parks/meadowlark/index.php>

This is the perfect setting for a walk with a stroller or small children. You can keep cool, take a break, or enjoy the view in the gazebo overlooking one of the three lakes. Kids will enjoy the stepping-stones, windy trails, and wooded paths. Picnic tables and pavilion are located outside of the park. See their website for special events, programs, and a directions.

Brookside Gardens

FREE

1800 Glenallan Avenue, Wheaton, MD
(301) 962-1400

<http://www.mc-mncppc.org/parks/brookside/>

Brookside Gardens is an award-winning 50-acre public display garden located within Wheaton Regional Park. Included in the gardens are several distinct areas: azalea garden, rose garden, yew garden, formal garden, fragrance garden, Japanese style garden and trial garden. Plenty of places for kids to explore or simply run around. Also, lots of paved paths for strollers, wheelchairs and toddlers. Admission is free. Next to the gardens is Wheaton Regional Park that has an incredible and absolutely huge playground, carousel (costs \$), picnic tables and fields for everything.

National Arboretum

3501 New York Avenue, NE, Washington, DC

(202) 245-2726

<http://www.usna.usda.gov/>

The National Arboretum is an 446-acre oasis in NE DC. Lush gardens and plenty of open space makes this a great place for relaxing, enjoying a picnic or letting the kids run off some energy. Kids can feed the large koi outside the Administrative Building or see Japanese-style rooms and miniature trees in the National Bonsai and Penjing Museum.

A quiet, beautiful place with nice asphalt paths for taking kids in strollers, tricycles, or bikes. If your kids can sit for 40 minutes, take the tram tour (weekends, mid-April to mid-Oct., \$4 for adults, \$2 for children ages 4-16, under 4 free but must share seat with adult if tram is full).

The United States Botanical Garden

245 First Street, S.W., Washington, DC

(202) 225-8333

<http://www.usbg.gov/>

A little known gem, the Botanic Garden is a fun 30 to 45 minute meander through three main climate zones and a pathway through exhibits on deserts, medicinal plants (don't miss the coffee plant), orchids and the garden primeval. Your tots may not care about the scientific names but should have some fun with the flora; older children might appreciate seeing what some foods look like while still attached to a plant. The center hall is devoted to jungle climates; stairs and elevators take you up to a (safe) catwalk to look down into the canopy.

Kenilworth National Aquatic Gardens

FREE

1900 Anacostia Drive, SE, Washington DC

(202) 426-6905

<http://www.nps.gov/keag/>

Many born and bred Washingtonians haven't heard or visited this park, yet it is completely unique and a great place for young ones. KNAG offers 12 acres of open ponds punctuated by gorgeous water lilies and lotus, birds, dragonflies, frogs, and beavers.

Fun Outings

Albert Einstein Statue

FREE

Pack a picnic and go sit on Albert Einstein's lap! This is one of the few statues you can climb on! Einstein is located on the grounds of the National Academy of Sciences on Constitution Avenue across from the Vietnam Memorial.

Mount Vernon Estate

Children under 5 FREE

Located at the end of the George Washington Parkway, Alexandria
(703) 780-2000

<http://www.mountvernon.org>

George Washington's riverfront plantation is beautiful. The estate is definitely more interesting for older children, but the gardens and Pioneer Farmer Exhibit are great for preschoolers. Picnics are allowed and there is a snack bar at the entrance.

National Zoo

FREE

Rock Creek Park, Washington, DC
(202) 673-4800

<http://nationalzoo.si.edu/>

It's usually best to arrive in the morning or in the early evening to beat the heat and see the animals when they are most active and/or being fed. Must pay for parking unless you are a FONZ member or street parking is available on Connecticut Avenue after 9:00am (check signs to verify).

Reston Zoo

1228 Hunter Mill Rd., Vienna, VA
703.757.6222

<http://www.restonzoo.com/>

Reston Zoo encourages animal interaction. There are plenty of places to get "up close and personal" with the animals. Your child can feed the goats and sheep, ride a pony, and take a Zoofari Wagon Ride that gets right next to the zebras, antelope, bison, ostriches, long horns, and more! You won't want to miss the monkeys, alligators, camels, reptile house, or waterfowl!

Adults, \$10; Children 2-12 yrs \$8; open daily 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Theodore Roosevelt Island

FREE

(703) 285-2598

<http://www.nps.gov/this/>

This 88-acre island in the middle of the Potomac River is a bird sanctuary. There are 2.1 miles of walking trails, perfect for preschoolers. There is a 47-foot monument to Theodore Roosevelt in the island's center.

Directions: Located off the George Washington Parkway heading north, just before Key Bridge Exit.

Burke Lake Park

7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station, VA
(703) 323-6600

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/burkelake/

The park is huge, lake has paddle boats. There is a train, a carousel, a mini golf course, an ice cream parlor and a jungle gym (all in one section of the park that is wooded and shady). It costs \$8 per car to enter the park if you are not a Fairfax County resident and the train/carousel/mini-golf cost extra.

Rock Creek Park Horse Center

5100 Glover Road, NW, Washington, DC 20015
(202) 362-0117

www.rockcreekhorsecenter.com

Children 2 1/2 and up can take 15 minute pony rides on a horse trail (with a leader, of course). Each ride is \$20 but is SO worth it if you have a horse-obsessed child! Even you don't wish to ride, the Horse Center is a boarding facility and you can wander through the barn to see the horses - take carrots as you are permitted to give them to many of the horses.

Cabin John Regional Park

9500 Brunett Ave., Silver Spring, MD 20901

http://www.mc-mncppc.org/Parks/facilities/regional_parks/cabinjohn/index.shtm

Offers train rides every day throughout the summer; they also have puppet shows and other kinds of children's activities. See website for more details.

Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities

(703) 883-4686

<http://www3.alexandriava.gov/recreation>

The Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities sponsors free summer concerts. Call the events office at or check the website for further information.

Museums

Science

Air and Space Museum

FREE

Independence Ave. and 7th St., SW, Washington, DC
(202) 357-2700

<http://www.nasm.si.edu/>

One of Washington's Musts, the Air and Space Museum is the most popular museum in the world. This is where all airplanes want to stay when they retire. The Wright 1903 Flyer, the Spirit of St. Louis, the Apollo 11 command module, and scores of other lesser known but important and cool looking vehicles are here to enjoy. There are lots of interactive exhibits as well - wind tunnels, carrier landings etc. Air and Space is a great place to go on rainy days. Parking on the Mall is available for mortals after 9:30 am and can be tight later in the day.

There is so much big stuff that they had to build a storage shed for it. A dazzling \$311 million storage shed, the Udvar-Hazy Center, at Dulles Airport, is chock-full of cool airplanes and space stuff. Make sure to visit the observation tower where you can watch the planes take off and land at Dulles. \$12.00 parking.

<http://www.nasm.si.edu/udvarhazy>

14390 Air and Space Museum Parkway
Chantilly, VA 20515
202-633-1000

National Geographic Explorers Hall

FREE

17th & M Streets, NW, Washington, DC
(202) 857-7588

<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/museum/index.html>

At Explorers Hall, you can touch a tornado, explore the solar system, or learn more about the fragile balance of Earth's inhabitants in Geographica, a permanent exhibit about the Earth and its geography. Short movies and interactive exhibits keep small ones entertained, at least for a little while.

History

National Museum of American History

FREE

14th Street and Constitution Ave N.W., Washington, D.C.

(202) 633-1000

<http://americanhistory.si.edu/>

This newly renovated museum offers a great deal for our little ones. Don't miss the new Spark!Lab, the "Invention at Play" and "America on the Move" exhibitions, and pick up a free family guide to hunt for faces of American history. Look for hands-on carts, see the new Star-Spangled Banner exhibition and its interactive table, and don't miss Kermit the frog or Dorothy's ruby slippers!

Natural History Museum

FREE

10th Street & Constitution Ave., NW, Washington, DC

(202) 633-1000

<http://www.mnh.si.edu/>

At the Museum of Natural History, popular kid destinations include the Orkin Insect Zoo, the Discovery Room, and the Dinosaur-Fossil Hall. The largest (stuffed) African bush elephant in the world is located at the rotunda's center. If your kids like spiders and insects, then check out the tarantula feedings (Tuesdays to Fridays, 10:30am, 11:30am, and 1:30pm. Sat. and Sun. at 11:30am, 12:30 & 1:30pm) at the Insect Zoo. The Discovery Center houses hands-on-activities and a state-of-the art Johnson IMAX Theater. They limit visitors, so there may be a wait on weekends (get a free ticket for a given time and wander around the museum; monitored entrance). With strollers, enter through Constitution Ave. (ramps, automatic doors). Cafeteria, although expensive, is a great place to take tired kids. Discovery Center has hands-on activities to keep kids busy and lets parents take a breather. Metro: Blue and Orange lines to Smithsonian. Be sure and check out the Discovery Room – call ahead to find out how to get passes. Although it is free, the limited spaces fill up.

National Museum of the American Indian

FREE

4th St and Independence Ave SW, National Mall, Washington, DC 20560

(202) 633-1000

<http://www.nmai.si.edu/>

The NMAI is the only national museum dedicated to the Native peoples of North, South, and Central America. Their educational mission is to preserve, present, and celebrate the Native cultures of the Americas. The hallmark of this museum is that all aspects of the exhibitions and programs are presented from the Native perspective - "in the Native voice." Check the website for various free family programs.

National Postal Museum*FREE*

2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE, Washington, DC
(202) 633-5555

<http://postalmuseum.si.edu/>

Learn about the history of stamps and the postal system at the National Postal Museum, the Smithsonian's first class "repository for the largest, most comprehensive philatelic collection in the world, including 5.9 million objects." (Others were lost in the mail?)

The Discovery Center has fun Activity Kits, games that reflect museum topics, self-directed crafts and special monthly activity for families. Irony note: the Postal Museum is open seven days a week and is free. Metro: Red Line to Union Station.

Art**The Kreeger Museum**

2401 Foxhall Road, NW, Washington, DC
(202) 338-3552

<http://www.kreegermuseum.org>

Family hours every Saturday, 1-4 pm. There is a \$10 fee per adult.

Story Time (ages 3-5) second Thursday of each month, 10:00 – 11:00 am.

\$5 supply fee per child, accompanying adult is free. Reservations required.

Hirshhorn Museum & Sculpture Garden*FREE*

National Mall at the corner of Seventh Street SW and Independence Avenue
(202) 633-4674

<http://hirshhorn.si.edu/>

The Hirshhorn is the Smithsonian's museum of modern and contemporary art. This is a great place to ask kids what they see...Don't miss the Sculpture Garden.

National Gallery of Art*FREE*

Constitution Avenue between 3rd & 7th streets, NW, Washington, DC
(202) 737-4215

<http://www.nga.gov/>

Visit the National Gallery of Art Kids website for detailed calendar listings. They have great programs throughout the summer. Family Weekends offer a variety of activities—films, music, hands-on art projects—for children and adults to enjoy together. All activities are free. There is no advance registration for this drop-in program; participation in each activity is on a first-come, first-served basis.

For more information, call (202) 789-3030. Next door is that Geometry teacher's dream, the East Wing. It houses traveling exhibits and is a great public space in its own right. An enormous Calder mobile in the main hall will entertain toddlers.

Other

National Building Museum

FREE

401 F Street, NW, Washington, DC
(202) 272-2448

<http://www.nbm.org/>

If you like bricks then you'll love The National Building Museum, another world-class public space with fascinating exhibits "dedicated to exploring and celebrating architecture, design, engineering, construction, and urban planning." Family drop-in programs on Saturday and Sundays.

National Museum of Women in the Arts

\$10 per adult

1250 New York Avenue, N.W, Washington, DC
(202) 783-5000

<http://www.nmwa.org/>

The NMWA is "the only museum in the world dedicated exclusively to recognizing the contributions of women artists," features 250 works by women artists around the world and offers a variety of programs. Visit their [calendar](#) for more information on family programs. Free community days are the first Sunday of every month.

National Geographic Live

Grosvenor Auditorium

National Geographic Society

1600 M Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20036

(202) 857 7700

<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/nglive/washingtondc/s2008/family/index.html>

Step into a world of entertaining presentations by today's leading explorers, scientists, photographers, and performing artists. From lively concerts to thought-provoking presentations, captivating films, and engaging family events, *National Geographic Live!* brings you the world and all that's in it!

Indoor Fun

PlayWiseKids

6570 Dobbin Road, Columbia, MD
(410) 772-1540

<http://www.playwisekids.com/>

PlayWiseKids is a “hands-on activity center for children ages 1-10.” Kids can dress up like a king or queen, watch themselves sing and dance on a huge TV screen, play in a real fire truck, or journey throughout the 25 exhibit, 24,000 square foot activity center.

Paint This!

1013 King Street, Alexandria VA
703-519-7499

<http://www.paintthis.com>

A paint-your-own ceramic studio right in the heart of Old Town! Choose your pottery, choose your colors, have a seat and enjoy a leisurely afternoon of painting! Paint This! opens daily at noon.

Lubber Run Community Center

300 N. Park Dr, Arlington, VA
(703) 228-4712

http://www.arlingtonva.us/departments/ParksRecreation/scripts/comm_center/ParksRecreationScriptsComm_centerLubberRun.aspx

The community center has an open play area for tots on Wednesdays at 10am until noon. Call for more information.

Barcroft Sports & Fitness Center

4200 S Four Mile Run, Arlington, VA
(703) 228-0701

http://www.arlingtonva.us/Departments/ParksRecreation/scripts/comm_center/ParksRecreationScriptsComm_centerBarcroft.aspx

On Tuesday and Thursdays from 10am to noon, Barcroft Sports & Fitness Center has open play for tots. They open up their gym floor with loads of great toys for the kids. Cost is \$3/adult.

Jammin' Java

227 Maple Avenue, Vienna, VA
(703) 255-1566

<http://www.jamminjava.com/index.php>

This coffee house has children's shows every weekday morning at 10:30am and features bands such as Rocknoceros. Cost is \$5 for every child over one year old (free for parents). See the website for further details.

Jonah's Treehouse

2121 Wisconsin Avenue, C-1 Level, Washington, DC
(202) 298-6805

www.jonahstreehouse.com

Jonah's Treehouse, located in upper Georgetown, boasts a spacious play studio for babies and young children up to age 5 and offers a variety of classes. Classes combine free play, structured movement, music, poetry and drama to create a unique experience for each child in every class. Open Play is offered Tu-Th from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. @ \$7 an hour; Open Play is also offered Saturday and Sunday mornings.

JW Tumbles

Locations in Arlington & Alexandria, Virginia

<http://www.jwtumbles.com/>

At J.W. Tumbles®, with all there is to crawl on, climb on, hang from, bounce on, fly across, zip over, discover and explore, kids not only feel good, they feel good about themselves. J.W. Tumbles® is a unique skill and confidence-building program set in a non-competitive environment designed especially for children 4 months to 9 years.

Lee District RECenter

6601 Telegraph Road, Franconia, VA
(703) 922-9841

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/rec/leerec.htm>

A great place to take the kids when the weather isn't too great. The soft play room has a ball pit, wall to wall mats and climbing apparatus. Call to confirm play room hours.

The Family Room

411 8th Street SE, 2nd Floor
Washington, D.C. 20003
(202) 640-1865

<http://www.thefamilyroomdc.com/>

A place to play indoors - really for the 3 and under set. Check website for fees.

Pump It Up

10110 Battleview Pkwy
Manassas, VA 20109
(703) 361-0731

<http://www.pumpitupparty.com/>

Pop-in play at Pump It Up is a great way for the kids to burn off some energy. Play on giant, soft fun-filled interactive inflatables. Promote social development while bouncing, sliding, climbing, and jumping. See website for more information on pricing and dates.

Malls

JetBlue Airways Playstrip

Dulles Town Center, Sterling, VA
(703) 404-7120

http://www.shopdullestowncenter.com/2006/images/section_titles/kidsclub.html

Soft sculpture mini airport terminal complete with control tower, baggage cart, slide and jump in cockpit is the perfect play stop for kids. To avoid the crowds and tackling by older kids, visit weekday mornings. The Mall Munchkins Kids' Klub meets on Wednesdays (selected dates), from 10 to 11am, sign up at the Concierge Desk.

Fair Oaks

11750 Fair Oaks Fairfax, VA
(703) 359-8300

The newly designed Looney Tunes Play Area is sponsored by INOVA Fair Oaks Hospital located on the lower level near JCPenney. The innovative indoor play area lets kids rub elbows with three-dimensional Looney Tunes favorites, from Bugs Bunny and Daffy Duck to Pepe Le Pew and Tweety Bird. Obviously, shopping and food court nearby.

Springfield Mall

6500 Springfield Mall, Springfield, VA
(703) 971-3600

<http://www.springfieldmall.com/kids.aspx>

Moms and Moppets Kids Club meets on throughout the year. This free program is geared toward preschoolers and includes organized entertainment (e.g., puppets, music, magic). Other attractions include the carousel and two-story play tower. There is also a family rest stop.

Tysons Corner Center Play Area

Lots of things to climb on and over, slides and a cushioned floor for little ones. There's plenty of seating for parents and stroller parking. Tysons is also launching a new Kids Club for kids under 10. Signup at guest services on Level 1 near Hecht's and you'll get a kids club membership card. There will be free storytimes, entertainment, prizes, and a special gift on your child's birthday.

The Woodlands at Landmark

The newest play area in the Metro DC area is The Woodlands at Landmark, a children's soft play area at Landmark Mall's center court. There will be hand sanitizers and shoe cubbies to compliment the 30'x30' area.

Water Fun - Indoor

Audrey Moore RECenter

8100 Braddock Road, Annandale, VA
(703) 321-7081

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/rec/wakerec.htm>

Audrey Moore RECenter at Wakefield Park is approximately 76,000 square feet in size and houses a 50m x 25yd pool, one 3m and two 1m diving boards, and Super Slide. There are locker rooms that contain saunas and showers along with a variety of other services related to exercise.

Chinquapin Indoor Pool & Diving Well

3210 King Street, Alexandria, VA
(703) 519-2160

http://www.ci.alexandria.va.us/recreation/chinquapin/chinquapin_center.html

The Chinquapin Park Recreation Center includes a year-round 25 meter indoor pool and diving well that is handicap accessible. In addition to the pool, they have men & women's saunas, aquatics, sports and fitness classes, fully equipped locker rooms and more.

Cub Run RECenter

4630 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly, VA
(703) 817-9407

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/rec/wcrec.htm>

Cub Run RECenter has a 4,860 square feet leisure entertainment pool featuring two water slides and a water playground along with a 25-yard by 25-meter swimming pool. They also offer a fitness center and multipurpose rooms. The water playground is a lot of fun for the kids, just go at off peak times. There are two slides, one is a 30-foot high slide that exits the building in an enclosed tube; the other a 20-foot high slide with an open tube. The kids area is a zero-depth entry making it safe for the little ones. Hours of operation vary, check the website for more details.

George Mason RECenter

8426 Old Mt. Vernon Road, Alexandria, VA
(703) 780-8894

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/rec/gwrec.htm>

George Washington RECenter has a heated indoor 25 meter pool with a poolside spa, beach and wading area, saunas, showers and fully equipped locker rooms. Check their website for hours of operation and fees.

Lee District RECenter

6601 Telegraph Road, Franconia, VA
(703) 922-9841

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/rec/leerec.htm>

The Lee District RECenter includes a heated, indoor 50-meter by 25-yard pool, a Superslide, three diving boards, spa, spectator seating, locker rooms, family changing room, saunas, and showers and an outdoor sun deck and grassed sunbathing area. There is also a fitness center within the facility. Check their website for more information on hours and pricing.

Mount Vernon RECenter

2017 Belle View Blvd, Alexandria, VA
(703) 768-3224

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/rec/mvrec.htm>

Mount Vernon RECenter has a 25-meter heated indoor pool with poolside spa, a beach area with play features, locker rooms with showers and sauna and a fitness center.

Great Wolf Lodge

Williamsburg, VA 1-800-551-WOLF

<http://williamsburg.greatwolfodge.com/>

Great Wolf Lodge in Williamsburg is the latest indoor waterpark. Loads of amenities, water attractions, restaurants and more. You never have to leave the resort. Open year-round, usually with one or more special offers in the works.

Massanutten Resort Water Park

Rt. 644, Harrisonburg, VA
1-800-207-MASS

<http://www.massresort.com/>

Massanutten Resort is known as a ski resort; however newly opened is their water park. The water park is open year round (indoor) with the outdoor section open seasonally. There is something for everyone in this waterpark. Surf the pipeline indoors, head down the blue ridge rapids, slide down one of the many water slides or take the smaller kids to frog pond. General admission is \$38/day pass; \$28/twilight rate. Children under 2 are free and those under 42" tall are \$26/day pass; \$19/twilight rate.

Water Fun - Outdoor

C&O Canal

1057 Thomas Jefferson Street, NW, Washington, DC
(202) 653-5190

\$5 Children

\$8 Adults

Take a ride on an old canal boat. They move up one lock. There is a donkey to pull the boat and you watch the lock fill up with water while you move up to the next one.

Cameron Run Regional Park

4001 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, VA
(703) 960-0767

<http://www.nvrpa.org/parks/cameronrun/index.php>

This park has mini golf, a wave pool, and water slides.

Potomac River Boat Company

Alexandria City Marina, Alexandria, VA
(703) 548-9000

<http://www.potomacriverboatco.com/>

Call for tours, times and prices. Take a narrated cruise and learn about the history and legends of Old Town. The company also offers a longer boat tour of Washington landmarks.

Patowmack Canal and Great Falls National Park

\$5 per

vehicle

9200 Old Dominion Drive, McLean, VA
(703) 285-2966
11710 McArthur Blvd., Potomac, Maryland
(301) 299-3613

The 800-acre park has 15 miles of trails, visitor centers, snack pavilions, picnic areas and canal boat rides along the C&O on the Maryland side. The Maryland side also has the flat canal towpath, which is ideal for biking.

The Boathouse at Fletcher's Cove

4940 Canal Road N.W. Washington, D.C.
(202) 244-0461

www.fletcherscove.com

Open from early March through the fall, Fletcher's offers rental boats, canoes and bicycles, and sale of bait, tackle and refreshments. Whether you enjoy outstanding fishing, a bike ride along the C & O canal, or a leisurely boat or canoe ride, Fletcher's offers a unique opportunity to enjoy a picturesque setting, with ample parking and picnic areas, just minutes from downtown Washington, DC.

Alexandria Outdoor Mini-Pools

Operating Hours

MONDAY - FRIDAY: 12:00pm - 6:00pm

Each Neighborhood pool has a shallow water depth of 3-5 feet. The Neighborhood Pools are small pools, able to accommodate a maximum of 45 guests at any given time. Because of the limited size of the Neighborhood Pools they are restricted to Alexandria residents 13 years of age and younger. Parents are welcome to accompany their children. Admission is free. Neighborhood Pools are closed Saturday, July 4 and open in 2009 from June 29 - August 21.

Locations

John Ewald Pool
4500 Duke St.
(Cross St.: N. Jordan)
703-838-4677

Charles Houston Pool
901 Wythe St.
(Cross St.: Henry)
703-838-4674

Alexandria - Outdoor Large Pools

Old Town and Warwick Pools open weekends and holidays only starting May 23. The large pools open full-time June 27 - September 7, 2009.

Admission is required for these pools. Go to: www.alexandriava.gov for detailed information.

Old Town Pool

1609 Cameron St.
(Cross St.: Harvard)
703-838-4671

Operating Hours

DAILY: 12:00pm - 7:00pm

This complex includes a 25-yard pool with a diving well and two large, floating reptile features to play on. A separate training pool is available for children up to 42 inches in height. Easily accessible for disabled, the training pool has a water depth range of 1-3 feet. For added convenience, a parking lot, picnic area and a tot playground are adjacent to the pool.

Warwick Pool

3301 Landover St.
(Cross St.: Burgess)
703-838-4672

Operating Hours

MONDAY - FRIDAY: 12:00pm - 7:00pm

SATURDAY & SUNDAY: 11:00am - 6:00pm

The site includes a 25-yard pool with diving well and a separate wading pool for children up to 42 inches in height. A bathhouse is available. Picnic areas are located inside the pool complex as well as next-door, where a modern playground featuring a tot playground is also available. The complex provides natural privacy as beautiful trees and shrubbery surround it.

Farms

Food

Pick Your Own Farm Website: <http://www.pickyourown.org/VA.htm>

This website lets you select a county in Virginia and it will give you a list of pick your own farms in that county, along with a description of each farm, the crops it grows and the season dates for those fruits/veggies.

Cherry Hill Farm & Orchard

12309 Gallahan Road, Clinton, MD, 20735

(301) 292-4642

<http://www.mdpickyourownfarmmarkets.org/zCherry.htm>

Cherry Hill Farm is a great place to pick fruit and eat homemade ice cream. The strawberry season runs from the mid of May to early June, blackberries June 1 – July 1, peaches July 1 – September 1, apples September through October. This farm is not too far as it is off of the first exit after crossing the Woodrow Wilson Bridge (Indian Head Highway, South (MD 210 South)).

Alexandria Farmers Market

Market Square, 301 King Street, Old Town Alexandria

April – October, Saturday, 5:30 a.m. -11 a.m.

Alexandria West End Farmers Market

Ben Brenman Park

http://alexandriava.gov/news_display.aspx?id=12122

Sundays, May through October, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., rain or shine

This farmers' market, featuring home baked goods, breads and pastries, and locally grown produce, is one of a kind on the City's west end. In addition to food items, opening day will also feature artwork from local artists.

Del Ray Farmers Market

Corner of Oxford St. and Mt. Vernon Avenue, Alexandria, VA

April – October, Saturday, 8 am - noon

Arlington Farmers Market

Adjacent to Arlington Courthouse Parking Lot

Corner of N. Courthouse Rd. and N. 14 St.

Saturday, 8 am - noon

Historical/Working Farms

Claude Moore Colonial Farm

\$3 per adult/\$2 per child

6310 Georgetown Pike, McLean, VA
(703) 442-7557

<http://www.1771.org/>

This living-history farm recreates tenant farm life in the 1770s. There are a few animals to see and the main walk is just the right length for preschoolers. There are picnic tables at the farm's entrance.

Colvin Run Mill Park

FREE

10017 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls, VA
(703) 759-2771

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/crm/>

The small park is approximately 5 miles west of Tyson's Corner on Rte. 7 and boasts a 19th century gristmill, early 20th century working general store and plenty of ducks and geese.

Oxon Hill Farm

FREE

Oxon Hill, Maryland
(301) 839-1177

<http://www.nps.gov/oxhi/>

The primary feature of Oxon Cove Park is Oxon Hill Farm, which operates as an actual working farm, representative of the early 20th century. You can see a farmhouse, barns, a stable, feed building, livestock buildings and a visitor activity barn. Special daily and seasonal interpretative activities include cow milking, wagon rides, and a chicken program. The Visitor Barn offers various exhibits, computer activities, and a bookstore. Hiking and biking trails are available and picnicking is welcomed.

Playgrounds

Alexandria

Beach Park

201 Rucker Place, Alexandria, behind Maury Elementary School (Russell Rd) between Johnston Place and Junior Street (from Russell Road, turn west on W. Masonic View, then left onto Johnston Place, park will be on your right) This park has been renovated with brand new play equipment: a larger slides and climbing wall structure, a smaller slide for young children, a nice sized sand box, a see-saw/teeter totter, swings and a grassy area with natural amphitheatre.

Beverley Park (“The Pit”)

620 North Overlook Drive (north of Valley Drive, almost in Arlington)
The playground has a swing set, two climbing structures with tube slides and different platforms to discover. There is a park shelter with picnic tables and benches. The park also has a hard court surface that has lines painted on it, so that children on their tricycles can pretend to use them as traffic lines, or they can play bounce their ball types of games or roll their toy trucks and cars.

Windmill Park

501 South Union Street, Old Town

Consists of a sand volley ball court, a basketball court and an upper and lower open turf area where pick-up soccer games are played. On the northern end of the park resides an upper and lower playground, the upper playground or tot lot is really for the little ones, ages four to eight. The lower playground is designed for older children.

Fort Ward Park

This Civil War Fort right on Braddock Road (near Minnie Howard School) has a small playground, an outdoor amphitheater, Civil War museum, and historical trenches as well as picnic tables and lots of open space. A nice outing and change from your regular playground. It's pretty shaded (although it can be buggy at times). There's a cool cannon that the kids can climb on! Drive into Fort Ward and the playground is down a hill on the right by picnic grounds #1 & 2.

YMCA or “Green” Playground

Off Monroe Avenue, Alexandria VA

There is a playground and gardens to explore. Bathrooms available at the YMCA.

Arlington

Fairlington

3308 S. Stafford St.

This playground has a picnic area, a sand lot, a small stage, bathrooms, and lots of playground equipment. Directions: From Northbound Quaker Lane, turn left onto 33rd St. S. (the first street on your left, just north of Crestwood), follow until you see the park on your right.

Chestnut Hills Park

North Harrison Street and 27th Street North, Arlington

Very large with a sand pit, a bike track, ride on toys (that aren't broken), houses for creative play, swings and slides of all sizes and climbing apparatus, even some shade!

Hayes Park

1516 North Lincoln Street, Arlington

It has new, fun playground equipment, swings for toddlers and older kids, a large sandbox, and most importantly a sprinkler area with a solar system theme that the kids love playing in on hot days.

Lyon Village Park

1800 N. Highland St., Arlington

Five in-ground sprays gushing water into the air take running through the sprinkler to a new level. The free, public "sprayground" also features a 13-foot-high water wheel and dumping bucket that splashes kids with water. The 1.5 acre park was completely redesigned. It includes a new sandbox, paths throughout the site to improve pedestrian walkways, and an ADA-accessible drinking fountain. Numerous shade and flowering trees, shrubs and open spaces help beautify the park. In addition to the water play area, there is new playground equipment, along with play areas and swings for both tots and school-age children

Lacey Woods Park

1200 North George Mason Drive, Arlington

The park has two play structures with five great slides for assorted ages, plus a giant sandbox with tons of toys, and lots of other playground equipment (two baby swings, padded pavement mini-basketball court, playhouse, climbing bars, etc.), even shaded in areas.

The Children's Rain Garden Powhatan Springs Park

6020 Wilson Blvd, Arlington

Not a traditional playground, but a rain garden. Water vessels, a water pump and flume, wetland plants and stepping stones and a raindrop system are some of the features of this park.

Virginia Highlands Park

1600 S. Hayes Street, Arlington

Virginia Highlands is great for toddlers. The play structure and sandbox are fully shaded and fenced. There are brand new bathrooms, a basketball court, picnic tables, beach volleyball and tennis courts right outside of the fenced area. There is also a large play structure (fully shaded) for older children located on the other side of the park. Additionally it is a short walk to Pentagon city mall and Pentagon row for food and more entertainment.

Fort Scott Park

2800 S. Fort Scott Dr., Arlington

This great neighborhood park boasts a baseball diamond, tennis courts, bathrooms, a picnic shelter with tables and grills and a very nice playground area. It also has short walking trails around the park.

Fairfax County**Lee District Recreation Center**

6601 Telegraph Road, Franconia (Alexandria south of the beltway)

703-922-9841

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/rec/leerec.htm>

Outdoor shaded playground and a carousel (small fee) – call for carousel hours. Closed-toe shoes required for carousel. Soccer and t-ball fields. Indoors: a pool and a soft foam play room.

Clemyjontri

6317 Georgetown Pike, McLean, Virginia 22101

703-388-2807

<http://www.clemypark.com/>

Everyone should make an excursion to Clemyjontri, the uber-playground in McLean built by Fairfax County on 18 acres of land donated by a wealthy widow who asked only that the county build a park that accommodates disabled children. This park is worth the trip: the playground is easily four times the size of anything else in northern Virginia, it has a nice soft rubber mat surface, lots of different playscape items that you won't find anywhere else, and a carousel in the middle. Read all about it at this website:

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/clemyjontri/>

One caution: there is no fence around this park and it is very wide and spread out. One adult per child is optimum.

Wakefield Park Recreation Center

8100 W. Braddock Road, Annandale, VA

(703) 321-7080

This Fairfax County Recreation Center has a great playground.

Children's Theatre

Smithsonian's Discovery Theatre

1100 Jefferson Drive, SW, Washington, DC

<http://discoverytheater.com/shows/shows.shtm>

Located on the 3rd sublevel of the S. Dillon Ripley Center. The Dillon Ripley center is located on the National Mall between the Smithsonian Castle and the Freer Gallery.

Member and non-member prices, very reasonable, purchase over the web, some shows are sold out so buy early.

Glen Echo Park Puppet Shows

7300 MacArthur Blvd., Bethesda, MD

(301) 320-6668

www.glenechopark.org/kids.htm

Check out the website for upcoming puppet shows and other children's art programs and classes. Glen Echo is a fun park with a small children's playground, snack bar, picnic tables and they have a great old carousel (\$1 a ride).

Wolftrap "Theatre in the Woods"

\$8

1551 Trap Road, Vienna, VA 22182

(703) 225-1900

<http://www.wolftrap.org/>

Wolf Trap Foundation and the National Park Service proudly present a much-loved series that enables families to spend the summer months introducing children to the thrill of live performance. Allow 1-hour travel and walk up steep hill before performance. Shows last approximately 40 minutes. Remember to bring change for the toll road.

Arlington Cinema N Drafthouse

2903 Columbia Pike (On the corner of Walter Reed and Columbia Pike)

(703) 486-2345

<http://www.arlingtondrafthouse.com/>

Click on Family Friendly for a listing of children's performers.

Family Day Trips

Annapolis, Maryland

Annapolis is a quaint, scenic town. It's a fun place to get an ice-cream, stroll and boat watch. While you're there, visit:

- **Chesapeake Children's Museum**

<http://www.theccm.org/>

Festival at Riva Road Shopping Center, 2331-D Forest Drive, Annapolis (410) 266-0677. \$3 for ages 1 and up. This small museum teaches children about ecology, history and science with nine hands-on theme areas. Closed Wednesdays.

Baltimore, Maryland

Baltimore is a good day-trip. Don't miss the Inner Harbor pavilions, boats, and boardwalk. You can even take the Camden line of the MARC commuter train from DC's Union Station up to Camden Yards – 2 blocks away from the Inner Harbor. Visit their website for up to date schedules:

<http://www.mtmaryland.com/services/marc/schedulesSystemMaps/camden.cfm>

While there, visit:

- **Maryland Science Center**

<http://www.mdsci.org/>

601 Light Street, Baltimore, MD 21230

Ph: 410-685-2370, Check website for hours.

24 Hour Information Line: 410-685-5225, Tickets \$14.50 Adults, \$10 Children

Visit the Kids Room and Davis Planetarium, along with Dinosaurs and other exhibits, including an IMAX theatre (costs extra). In the Kids room: send boats down the river channel in water play, operate the fish cam in the submarine, dress-up like a turtle, and send messages through a pneumatic tube on the ceiling. There's even an area for kids under two—Room To Grow—where infants and toddlers can crawl around squishy waterbeds and play with big soft blocks

- **B&O Railroad Museum**

901 W. Pratt Street, Baltimore, MD 21223

(410) 752-2490

<http://www.borail.org>

Learn all about historic trains, steam engines, and railroads.

- **National Aquarium**

Pier 3/501 E. Pratt Street, Inner Harbor

(410) 576-3800

<http://www.aqua.org/>

Cost: \$22 adults, \$13 children (3 and up) – dolphin show extra but worth it

The Aquarium features a dolphin show, petting area, coral reef exhibit and rain forest. There is a food court in the building.

- **Port Discovery** *\$11.75 ages 2-102
under 2 - free*
35 Market Place, Baltimore, MD 21202
(410) 727-8120
<http://www.portdiscovery.org>
Enjoy 3 floors of interactive educational exhibits and programs for children ages 2-12 years old. Call to see if school groups or camps are coming the day you are – it can be very loud.

Cunningham Falls State Park *\$3 a vehicle (check website)*
Exit Rt. 15, Thurmont, MD
(301) 271-2495
<http://www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/western/cunninghamfalls.html>
Travel just an hour or so Northwest of the city and you'll find yourself in the beautiful, cool Catocin Mountains. The park is a perfect escape from the city's heat and humidity. The 40-acre lake offers a wonderful beach (with lifeguards), lots of shaded, lakeside picnic sites, two snack bars, fishing, boat rentals, etc. After lunch you can hike one of the many trails – even climb up the side of the Falls! Take along some garbage bags as it is a “trash-free” park.
Directions: Route 270W to Frederick; then take Route 15 from Frederick to Thurmont – watch for signs. The State Park is adjacent to the Catocin Mountain National Park (<http://www.nps.gov/cato/> - another great place to visit). While in the area you might be interested in the Catocin Wildlife Preserve and Zoo: <http://www.cwpzoo.com/> - Adults \$14.95, Children \$9.95)

Sandy Point State Park and Beach *\$4-5 person (check website)*
1100 East College Parkway
Annapolis, MD 21401
(410)974-2149
<http://www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/southern/sandypoint.html>
A great beach with lifeguards, a playground, good bathroom facilities, snack bar, and a great view of the Bay Bridge. The waves are low – good for all ages.
Directions: Last exit off Rt. 50 before Chesapeake Bay Bridge (follow signs). Allow 30-45 min. travel time, depending on traffic.

Shenandoah National Park
(540) 999-3500
<http://www.nps.gov/shen/>
Park Entrance: Front Royal, VA accessible via I-66 and Route 340
Drive along the scenic Skyline Drive and stop at countless overlooks and picnic areas. You can spend the night at Big Meadows Lodge, Lewis Mountain Lodge, Skyland Lodge, or pitch a tent in one of the many campsites. Call (800) 999-4714 to make reservations at lodges or (800) 365-CAMP for campsites. The

lodges offer ranger led children programs and Skyland offers pony rides and has a pretty decent playground. If staying overnight, make day trips to the Luray sites on the following page.

Luray Caverns

9 miles west of Skyline Drive on US Highway 211

(540) 743-6551

<http://www.luraycaverns.com/>

This is the largest and most popular cavern in the east. Bring a sweater as it is cool in the caverns.

Luray Reptile Center and Dinosaur Park

1087 US Highway 211

(540) 743-4113, Hours: 10am – 5pm daily in the summer

Adults \$10.00, Children (ages 3 -12) \$5.00, Children 2 years and under are free

<http://www.lurayzoo.com/>

Winchester, Virginia

- **Shenandoah Valley Discovery Museum**

54 S. Loudoun Street

Winchester, VA 22601

(540) 722-2020, \$5 per person for ages 2 and up, under 2 – free

<http://www.discoverymuseum.net/index.asp>

A small museum but with neat exhibits like an apple packing area with wheelbarrows, crates, pulleys; emergency clinic and ambulance with life sized equipment for pretend play, nature oriented reading room with loft, blocks, Native American room, climbing wall, golf ball raceways, and an art area.

- **Snow White Grill**

159 North Loudoun Street, Winchester

(540) 662-5955, 10am – 5pm, serves lunch

Restaurant has a 1949 soda fountain, counter and stools. Kids love the shakes, ice-cream and silver dollar-sized burgers. Closed on Sundays.

- **Dinosaur Land**

Rt. 1 in White Pos, between Winchester and Front Royal

(540) 869-2222, Adults \$5, Children \$4, 9:30am – 6:30pm

<http://www.dinosaurland.com/>

Preschoolers love to see the 35 life-size dinosaur reproductions.

- **Wilson's Wild Animal Park**

985 West Parkins Mill Road, Winchester

(540) 662-5715

This is an 8-acre park with more than 200 mammals, birds, and reptiles.

Summer Festivals

Imagination Bethesda

A Children's Street Festival

Along Woodmont Avenue and Elm Street in downtown Bethesda

<http://www.bethesda.org/specialevents/imagination/imagination.htm>

Fair date: June 6, 2009

Imagination Bethesda is a children's street festival celebrating children and the arts, including musical performances, dance troupes, roving entertainment and hands-on art & craft activities.

Potomac Celtic Festival

Morven Park

17263 Southern Planter Lane

Leesburg, VA 20176

<http://www.potomaccelticfest.org/>

Fair dates: June 13-14, 2009

28th Annual Alexandria Red Cross Waterfront Festival

Oronoco Bay Park, on the Old Town Alexandria Waterfront

<http://www.waterfrontfestival.org/>

Fair dates: June 20-21, 2009

Admission ticket includes nautical events, musical entertainment, arts & crafts show, interactive exhibits, and children's crafts and activities.

Northern Virginia Summer Brew Fest

41793 Tutt Lane, Leesburg, VA 20176

Morven Park in Leesburg, VA,

<http://novabrewfest.com/summer/>

Fair dates: June 27-28, 2009

Just because it's a BrewFest, don't think that the little ones aren't invited. The Children's Area is dedicated to providing entertainment for children including moonbounces, face-painters, air-brush tattoos, and other hands-on activities.

Reston Festival

Reston Town Center

<http://www.restonfestival.com/index.asp>

Fair dates: July 11 – 12, 2009

Rides, carnival, games, and many children's activities!

Loudoun County Fair

Loudoun County Fairgrounds

17558 Dry Mill Road

Leesburg, VA 20175

<http://loudouncountyfair.com/>

Fair dates: July 26 – August 1st, 2009

Offering an exciting week of attractions, carnival rides, animal exhibits, vendors and an amazing display of crafts.

2009 Arlington County Fair

Thomas Jefferson Community Center

3501 South Second Street, Arlington, VA 22204

<http://www.arlingtoncountyfair.org/>

Fair dates: August 19-23, 2009

Special Events

Annual Children's Festival: Adventures in Music

Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center
3001 North Beauregard Street, Alexandria, VA 22311
www.alexsym.org

Sunday, June 7, 2009 @ 2:00 pm

Join the ASO for a fun-filled afternoon of art activities, an instrument petting zoo, and a performance of the music from "The Chronicles of Narnia," "Lord of the Rings," and the Looney Tunes classic "What's Opera, Doc?" All tickets are \$5 general admission and can be purchased by calling 703-548-0885 or visiting

The 67th annual Greater Washington Soap Box Derby

Sunday, June 22, on Capitol Hill

<http://www.aasbd.org/>

The derby will run this year from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Constitution Avenue, NW, between New Jersey and Louisiana Avenues

This year's derby includes 50-60 area youth from age 8 to 17 racing gravity-powered vehicles down Capitol Hill in a Soap Box Derby competition where division winners move on to compete in July's All American Soap Box Derby in Akron, Ohio. Call (410) 531-5268 for more information.

Lyle the Crocodile

Based on the books by Bernard Waber
Imagination Stage / Lerner Family Theatre
4908 Auburn Avenue Bethesda, Maryland
301.280.1660

<http://www.imaginationstage.com/Our%20Shows/2008-09Season.htm#Lyle>

June 23 - August 9, 2009

Saturday & Sunday 12:30 & 3:30 PM

Saturday at 7:00 PM

Tuesday-Friday at 10:30 AM

Monster Jam

Hagerstown Speedway, Hagerstown, MD
July 17-19

<http://www.monsterjamonline.com/shows/show.2008-07-30.9006096763>

Web Sites

<http://www.our-kids.com/>

This web site is a wonderful resource for fun activities for children in the Washington metro area. There is also a weekly email that can be subscribed to that provides a daily listing of activities going on.

<http://www.familyfun.go.com>

Another great web site full of ideas for crafts, games, recipes and activities for children.