



Summer Activities

FOR KIDS





A photograph of four children running happily in a grassy park. In the background, there is a large, thick tree trunk. The children are dressed in summer attire: a boy in a white tank top and shorts, a girl in a red dress with a butterfly, a boy in a dark t-shirt with 'THE BEST' and orange shorts, and a girl in a white floral dress. The text 'SUMMER ACTIVITIES' is overlaid in a gold serif font.

SUMMER ACTIVITIES

For Kids

CENTRAL TEXAS



LADY BIRD JOHNSON WILDFLOWER CENTER

4801 La Crosse Ave, Austin, TX 78739

Visit the arboretum at the Wildflower Center to swing under the big trees or go on a nature walk as you spot seasonal wildflowers! The Family Garden also includes many opportunities for creative play with natural materials including giant birds' nests made of grape vines for kids to climb in, a grotto with caves and a waterfall, a maze made of native shrubs and more. The Wildflower Center is now using a reservation system to avoid any over-crowding.

Hours: Open Daily 9am - 5pm

Summer Parent Hack:

Freeze Water Bottles to keep your cooler cold instead of ice blocks. You keep things cold without the mess and end up with nice cold water!

ZILKER PARK

2100 Barton Springs Road, Austin, TX 78746

Zilker Metropolitan Park is considered "Austin's most-loved park." This 351-acre metropolitan park is home to a variety of recreation opportunities, facilities and special events for individuals and families. Head to the sprawling space by the giant rocks and spread out to fly kites, throw a Frisbee, play with cute dogs, or have a picnic with sweeping city views in the background. Zilker is a classic choice for a great day out with the kids.

Hours: Open Daily from 5am - 10am

ROCK'N RIVER WATERPARK

3300 E Palm Valley Blvd., Round Rock, TX 78664

With a lazy river, water slides, a giant tipping water bucket, several pools, a rock climbing waterfall wall, food trucks, plenty of shade — this place is awesome. Located in Old Settler's Park, this is just a short drive from Austin. Complete with water playground, tunnel showers, a water cannon, tipping frogs, floor geysers & a zero-beach-entry play area.

Hours: Opens Memorial Day Weekend,

Open Daily 12pm - 7pm

TYPHOON TEXAS WATERPARK

18500 TX-130 North Service Road Pflugerville, TX 78660

Typhoon Texas Austin is a family-friendly water park located in Pflugerville, Texas. If you are making a trip to Austin, go check them out. There is no better way to beat the Texas summer heat than to cool off in the pool. Slide down one of 30 different water slides, lounge in the lazy river, and grab a bite while spending quality time with friends and family. Enjoy live entertainment from Tidal Wave Bay during their Summer Concert Series. There is always something exciting happening at Typhoon Texas.

Hours: Weekends in May 11am - 5pm

Starting June 1st - Open Daily 10am - 6pm

THE GLOBE DRIVE-IN

8017 Cele Rd, Manor, TX 78653

The Globe Drive-In is a 35-car drive-in movie located in Pflugerville. Enjoy a night out with the kids at a family-friendly drive-in movie! You can catch a cult classic or family-friendly favorites Friday through Sunday nights. Full schedule, tickets and much more info located on globaldrivein.com.

Hours: Showtimes F-SU can be found online

Summer Parent Hack:

Place a cupcake liner underneath a popsicle's stick to catch and drips to save sticky hands and stained shirts!



THE AUSTIN ZOO

10808 Rawhide Trail, Austin, TX 78736

Austin Zoo is a non-profit rescue zoo and is located in southwestern unincorporated Travis County, west of Austin. The zoo is accredited by the Zoological Association of America. The mission of Austin Zoo is to assist animals in need through rescue, conservation, and education.

Hours: Open Daily from 5am - 10am



THE BEE CAVE SCULPTURE PARK

13333 Highway 71 Bee Cave TX 78738

The Bee Cave Sculpture Park is a cute art installation that's perfect for kids to explore. There are interesting sculptures, a spring-fed pond, and beautiful big trees for lots of shade. This park is small enough that it's easy for toddlers to run around. Another fun and less populated spot to meet with friends outdoors!

Hours: Open Daily



TEXAS MEMORIAL MUSEUM

2400 Trinity St, Austin, TX 78705

Perfect for your little dino-lover, this museum on the UT campus features over 500 dinosaur and fossil specimens including the Onion Creek Mosasaur, a 30 foot aquatic reptile that swam in the shallow seas of Texas during the Cretaceous Period. Texas Memorial Museum works to create awareness, understanding and appreciation of the past, present and future of biological diversity, especially that of the state of Texas.

Hours: TU-SA 9am - 1pm and 2pm - 5pm



THINKERY

1830 Simond Ave Austin, Texas 78723

Children learn through play — and no one knows this better than Thinkery! The name says it all. The whole family is guaranteed to have a blast at this Mueller Austin children's museum, featuring cool events and hands-on exhibits year round that inspire the imagination of your little thinkers.

Hours: General Admission available W-SU 10am - 5pm





SCHLITTERBAHN WATERPARK NEW BRAUNFELS

400 N Liberty Ave, New Braunfels, TX 78130

Schlitterbahn New Braunfels is home to the world's most award-winning waterpark ride, the Master Blaster, the Boogie Bahn Inland Surf Ride, Dragon's Revenge, and more. With four areas of Schlitterbahn, including Tubenbach, Surfenburg, Blasteno, and the Original Schlitterbahn, there is SO MUCH to do.

Hours: Weekends in May 11am - 6pm

Starting June 1st - Open Daily 11am - 6pm

Summer Parent Hack:

Freeze aloe vera in ice cube trays for a quick remedy to put over accidental sunburns for easy and quick relief for the skins!



BLANTON MUSEUM OF ART

200 E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Austin, TX 78712

What kid doesn't love touching all the pennies in the Cildo Meireles's *Missão/Missões* installation or seeing the rainbow colored glass in Ellsworth Kelly's *Austin*? The Blanton Museum of Art not only offers impressive art collections, but they also offer families the chance to get hands-on with lots of art activities during the summer months.

Hours: W-SA 10am - 5pm, SU 1pm - 5pm

Summer Parent Hack:

Keep dryer sheets in your pockets to keep bugs away. The chemicals in the sheets have shown to ward off bugs. Great for outside meals or playtime!

AUSTIN NINJAS

200 Buttercup Creek Blvd, Suite 107A
Cedar Park, TX 78613

With two locations, one in Austin and one in Cedar Park, climbing, jumping, and swinging on a ninja warrior course is great exercise as well as great fun. This type of activity builds confidence as kids try (and fail) and try again to reach their goals, all on their individual timeline. Open to kids ages 5 and up, with evening hours for those ages 14 and up, the gym is fun for all ages.

Hours: SA-SU 12pm - 5pm,

Private Party Booking Times Available

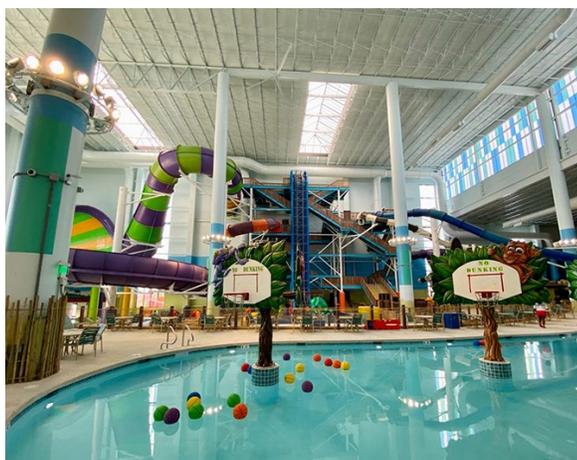


KALAHARI INDOOR WATERPARK

3001 Kalahari Blvd. Round Rock, TX 78665

Round Rock, Texas is home to Kalahari Resorts & Conventions, America's largest indoor waterpark! This 350-acre resort features 20 pools, 30 water slides, 975 guest rooms, five restaurants, an indoor adventure park, along with 200,000 square feet of meeting space for events. Located on U.S. 79 across from the Dell Diamond and Old Settler's Park, this giant waterpark is sure to be one of the most popular family-friendly destinations in Central Texas.

Hours: Waterpark Access Included with Resort Reservations or Daily Passes Available,



SCIENCE MILL

101 South Lady Bird Lane Johnson City, TX, 78636

Just an hour outside of Austin, you'll find this terrific science museum in Johnson City. It has more than 40 interactive world-class exhibits, a 3D theater, a huge outdoor space with an impressive kinetic sculpture. Old silos are transformed into exhibit space featuring things like The Fractarium. There are also many "maker stations" where kids can play a banana piano, play with "critter bots", or play with sand to form mountains, rivers, and lakes. The Science Mill provides hours of fun for all ages.

Hours: TH-SU 10am - 4pm

BLAZER TAG ADVENTURE CENTER

1701 W Ben White Blvd, Austin, TX 78704

Blazer Tag boasts the largest laser tag arena in Texas. At 10,000 square feet and three levels of nooks and crannies, a laser tag game here is like no other. In addition to their super awesome arena, there's an arcade with gems like Guitar Hero and classics like Skee-Ball.

Hours: M & TH 3pm - 9pm, F 3pm - 11pm, SA 1pm - 11pm, SU 1pm - 9pm





A child is swinging on a tire swing in a park. The child is wearing a white shirt with purple floral patterns and purple leggings. The swing is made of a black tire hanging from a blue rope. The background shows a grassy area and trees. The text "SUMMER ACTIVITIES For Kids" is overlaid on the image in a gold, serif font. "SUMMER ACTIVITIES" is in all caps, and "For Kids" is in a cursive script. A horizontal gold line is positioned below the text.

SUMMER ACTIVITIES
For Kids

GULF COAST





Outdoor Activities

DISCOVERY GREEN

1500 McKinney Houston, Texas 77010

Discovery Green is a 12-acre park located in Downtown Houston. Park visitors can expect to enjoy an interactive water fountain, model boat basin, dog park and playground. Several dining options are available, and the park offers fun, kid-friendly activities — from outdoor movies to Zumba classes — all summer long.

Hours: Open Daily from 6am - 12am

THE HOUSTON ZOO

6200 Hermann Park Drive Houston, TX 77030

One of Texas' best zoos is right here in Houston. Get your animal groove on exploring animal habitats, giraffe feedings, Naturally Wild Swap Shop (where you can bring in your found treasures), and Meet the Keeper talks/encounters/feedings every half hour. Their Water Play Park, Sneak Peek tours, Zoo Crew experiences, and Vet for a Day programs provide fun for toddlers to teens.

Hours: Open Daily from 9am - 5pm

Summer Parent Hack

Remove unwanted sand off of little feet and hands by sprinkling baby powder all over the area and then simply brush off unwanted sand!

HURRICANE HARBOR SPLASHTOWN

21300 I-45, Spring, TX 77373

SplashTown is Houston's largest and most diverse water park, featuring 40-acres and more than two million gallons of summer fun. You'll want to check out the Stingray Racer, the park's thrill ride featuring six water slide lanes stretching 55 feet up. And the Tornado, an experience that begins on a platform 75 feet in the air where daring riders are set in motion down a 132-foot long tunnel and thrown into the giant open-ended funnel.

Hours: Weekends in May 10am - 5pm

Starting June 1st - Open Daily 11am - 6pm

SCHLITTERBAHN WATERPARK GALVESTON

2109 Gene Lucas Blvd, Galveston, TX 77554

Schlitterbahn Waterpark Galveston features the most exciting collection of water rides in Texas. They offer more than 32 amazing rides and attractions, including a large wave pool, uphill water coasters, thrilling speed slides, kids' water playgrounds, whitewater rapids, relaxing hot tubs, family raft rides, the Boogie Bahn surf ride and the exclusive Transportainment river system.

Hours: Weekends in May 11am - 6pm

Starting June 1st - Open Daily 11am - 6pm

Summer Parent Hack

If your children suffer from itchy mosquito bits, use apple cider vinegar or lemon juice to help relieve the itching!

KEMAH BOARDWALK

215 Kipp Avenue Kemah, TX 77565

Overlooking Galveston Bay, the Kemah Boardwalk features themed restaurants, retail shops, and amusements for the whole family. This 35-acre carnival-like atmosphere has a 36-foot carousel, a 65-foot Ferris wheel and rides like the Aviator, the Inverter and the Boardwalk Tower. Don't miss the arcade and Midway games. And for thrill seekers, there's the Boardwalk Beast, an adrenaline rush of a boat ride that takes passengers four miles into Galveston Bay at speeds up to 40 mph.

**Hours: Amusement Rides: M-TH 12pm - 8pm, F-SU 12pm - 9pm,
Restaurant Hours Vary**

MILLER OUTDOOR THEATER

6000 Hermann Park Drive Houston, TX 77030

Miller Outdoor Theater is Houston's premier outdoor theater for the performing arts. Free performances run March through October. Miller Outdoor Theater offers the most diverse professional entertainment of any Houston performance venue, including classical music, jazz, ethnic music and dance, ballet, Shakespeare, musical theater, classic films and much more. Relax in the covered seating area or enjoy a pre-performance picnic on the hillside.

**Hours: First-come First-serve Basis Between 10:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. on
the Day of the Performance with a Limit of Four Tickets per Person.**

Summer Parent Hack

Put an end to bubble solution waste by duct taping the bubble solution bottles to a fence post or deck railing.

CONCERTS IN THE PARK - FRIENDSWOOD

1100 S Friendswood Dr Friendswood, TX, 77546

Come enjoy concerts every Friday evening at Stevenson Park Gazebo through the summer. All bands are family friendly and during intermission they offer raffle prizes. Bring your own blanket, picnic and enjoy some family fun!

Hours: Every Friday in May & June @ 7pm

BLESSINGTON FARMS

510 Chisolm Trail Simonton, TX 77485

Blessington offers virtually year-round u-pick-it opportunities: strawberries (December-June), blueberries (late May-June), thornless blackberries (June – July), and pumpkin patch (fall). Located just 40 miles west of Downtown Houston, Blessington also offers many farm fun activities and attractions, including animal encounters, mazes, slides and rides.

Hours: May 1st - 31st SA-SU 9am - 4pm, June 1st - 30th SA-SU 8am - 1pm

Summer Parent Hack

Keep dryer sheets in your pocket to keep bugs away. The chemicals in the sheets have shown to ward off bugs. Great for outside meals or playtime!



Indoor Activities

DOWNTOWN AQUARIUM

410 Bagby St, Houston, TX 77002

Downtown Aquarium is the product of redeveloping two downtown Houston landmarks – Fire Station No. 1 and the Central Waterworks Building. This magnificent six-acre entertainment and dining complex is a 500,000-gallon aquatic wonderland, home to over 300 species of aquatic life from around the globe. With a full-service restaurant, an upscale bar, a fully equipped ballroom, aquatic & geographic exhibits, shopping and a variety of amusements, Downtown Aquarium has it all!

Hours: SU-TH 10am - 8pm, F-SA 10am - 9pm

KIDTASTIC PARK INDOOR PLAYGROUND

25410 Highway 290, Suite B-8 Cypress, Texas 77429

As the premiere indoor birthday party center in Cypress, Kidtastic Park is a safe, clean and fun-filled indoor playground where children can grow, learn and play. They have multiple slides, zip line, a merry go round, sensory play, soft play, and much more! They also offer private play sessions as well as private parties.

Hours: M-TU 10am - 2:30pm, W 10am - 12pm,

F 10am - 5pm, SA-SU Vary

Summer Parent Hack

If you're out of town and stuck in a hotel room due to bad weather, encourage your children to look outside and draw the different objects they see.

CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OF HOUSTON

1500 Binz Street Houston, TX 77004

This world-class museum is crazy fun for all kids, featuring 90,000 square feet of interactive and bilingual exhibitions in the areas of science and technology, history and culture, health and human development, and the arts. Kids can run their own city and compile their own TV news reports at Kidtropolis, make their own gadgets in the Invention Convention exhibit, and check out the forces of hydropower at FlowWorks. And for children three years and younger, Tot Spot provides a fun-filled wonderland of invigorating activities for infants and toddlers.

Hours: TU-SA 10am - 5pm

HOUSTON MUSEUM OF NATURAL SCIENCE

5555 Hermann Park Drive Houston, TX 77030

This extremely kid-friendly museum consistently ranks as one of the most visited museums in the country for a reason. HMNS features a paleontology hall towering with prehistoric critters, a groovy planetarium, a 3D IMAX Theater, a magnificent butterfly exhibit, plus more than a dozen permanent exhibit areas. And make sure to check out the museum's massive Paleontology Hall.

Hours: Open Daily 9am - 5pm

Free Admission every Thursday 2pm - 5pm

Summer Parent Hack

When packing lots of clothes, save space in your suitcases by rolling clothes instead of folding them. Make the mornings even easier by rolling outfits together!

MAIN STREET THEATER

MECA at TBH 333 S. Jensen Drive,
Houston, TX 77003

Main Street Theater offers a lively year-round repertory of classic and contemporary plays for audiences of all ages. It houses a stage dedicated to the youth theater program and to large-scale MainStage classics and musicals.

Hours: Saturday and Sunday Performances
Available June 20th - August 1st

SPACE CENTER HOUSTON

1601 NASA Parkway Houston, TX 77058

Here, kids can experience the rich history and the awe of space through Kids Space Place, created for children of all ages who have always dreamed of experiencing the same things astronauts do in space. From the popular Build-A-Rocket to Mission Kidtrol, children will explore, learn the concepts of space and see how these fun activities can be applied to the space program. For a real behind-the-scenes look at NASA, take your kids (ages 14+) on the exclusive Level Nine Tour.

Hours: Open Daily 10am - 5pm

Summer Parent Hack

Create an easy DIY breakfast station for kiddos by putting cereal in airtight containers and a gallon of milk in a container with spigot on an accessible refrigerator shelf.



ALTITUDE TRAMPOLINE PARK

24952 Katy Ranch Road Katy, TX 77433

Channel your energy, cut loose with your best flips and tricks, and prepare for the Jump Life featuring 33,000 square feet of indoor trampolines and other attractions, Altitude Trampoline Park is an exciting destination for families, groups, and individual jumpers to have healthy, athletic fun.

Hours: M-TH 11am - 9pm, F-SA 11am - 10pm, SU 12pm - 4:30pm

THE MAD POTTER

4882 Beechnut Street Houston, TX 77096

Get in touch with your artistic side at this paint-your-own-pottery studio where kids and adults alike can try their hand at becoming the next modern-day Michelangelo. With their 3 Houston area locations, you're able to pick from a selection of pottery pieces to decorate including plates, mugs, boxes, & more. Create your masterpiece and treasure it forever!

Hours: SU-TH 10am - 8pm, F-SA 10am - 9pm

Summer Parent Hack

Empty egg cartons are a great solution to tote fresh fruit on the go that might easily bruise.





50 ACTIVITIES

to do at home with kids!

ALL AGES!

Are you stuck inside on a crazy hot day, sitting at home looking for something to keep the kids occupied in the last stretch of summer, or working from home and need some quiet time for your meetings? Kids ages six months to high school teens can enjoy a spot of fun wherever they are. These 50 ideas are some of Patten Title's favorite ways to start #makingmemories with your family right at home.

Babies

OUTDOORS

MELT COLORFUL ICE

Start with bright food coloring and fill an ice tray with vivid colors. Watch the colors combine and turn into bright puddles as each cube melts away.

CHECK OUT THE WILDLIFE

You don't have to go far to introduce your baby to some wildlife. Everywhere from your backyard to city parks and recreation areas will have bugs, worms, squirrels, and birds that introduce your child to new words and experiences.

PAINT WITH ICE

If your baby is a little more artistic, use Kool-Aid to color your ice. Then, add a paintbrush or popsicle stick to "paint" with the ice on the sidewalk or driveway.

RAISE YOUR KIDDIE POOL GAME

Inflate the kiddie pool and let them splash around in the mid-day heat. Bath toys in the pool add to the fun!

PAINT WITH EDIBLE COLORS

Explore their artistic talents. Buy or make some taste-safe finger paints, then add a big blank poster board to let even your youngest child experience the thrill of finger painting.

INDOORS

BUILD AN OBSTACLE COURSE

If your baby is just starting to crawl or walk, take a few pillows, cardboard boxes, and blankets to make a simple maze to scoot around in.

CREATE SIMPLE SENSORY BAGS

Gel plus any safe object can make a great sensory bag (and hours of play) for your little one. If they have mastered sitting up, a sensory bag will develop brain function and independent playtime.

READ TOGETHER

It can't be overstated: reading is fundamental. Take lots of time each day to read to your baby to help develop their cognitive, literacy and communication skills and more.

BLOW BUBBLES

You don't need to buy bubble solution to have fun indoors; you can make your own in three easy steps. Bubble parties in the bathtub or kitchen are best for easy cleanup.

ORGANIZE A KITCHEN CUPBOARD

When you start baby-proofing your house, make sure you're not only keeping sharps away from the baby but also keeping the fun stuff in low places. Then, let your baby "organize" (and reorganize) their spaces in the kitchen.

Toddlers / Preschool

OUTDOORS

ILLUSTRATE WITH FIZZY SIDEWALK CHALK PAINT

Up your sidewalk painting game with homemade chalk, then hand your toddlers a paintbrush.

GO ON A COLOR HUNT

Print off a scavenger hunt list and have your kids look for colors outdoors. For littles who don't read yet, use a poster board to show the colors and have your kids check them off as they find each one.

CREATE A GARDEN FLOWER TEN FRAME

Have your preschooler find 10 different types of fauna in your garden to help them learn counting and nature identification.

SEEK AND FIND USING SHAVING CREAM

This is a game that can be done inside or out but be prepared for a mess. Hide some toys (Lego bricks, smaller action figures, etc.) in shaving cream and let your child find them. You're creating sensory play plus deduction games!

SQUIRT GUN PAINTING

Set up an easel with a poster board, fill a few squirt guns with liquid watercolors and let your child fire away. (Use a spray bottle if you don't want to clean the insides of your squirt guns.)

INDOORS

MAKE ROCK CANDY

With a few household items and patience, you can make some candy. (Everything tastes better when it's homemade!)

PICK A CARD

Even young kids can learn simple card tricks to amaze family and friends!

HAVE A DANCE PARTY

Play some tunes, let the kids get dressed up and let them boogie away. Freeze dance is also a big hit!

DOES IT SINK OR FLOAT

Fill up the tub with some objects and watch to see what sinks or floats. The kids can record the results with check marks!

DISCOVER HOW CLOUDS MAKE RAIN

This rain-from-clouds experiment is ready for the kids with a jar, some food coloring and shaving cream.

Elementary Age

OUTDOORS

MAKE A BIRDFEEDER

Younger kids will probably need help, but there are many kits to choose from. They'll love the feeling of seeing the finished product.

MAKE DINNER

Good habits in the kitchen can be formed early and often start with a garden. Tomatoes and peppers are great in pots, or clear out a space in your backyard for kids to learn to grow their own veggies!

CLOTHESLINE ART SHOW

Send out "family invitations" and hang art projects on a clothesline gallery. Sell the crafty stuff for a nickel, dime or quarter.

GLOW-IN-THE-DARK-RING-TOSS

Summer is for skipping bedtime! Let the fun keep rolling after the sun goes down when you put a wooden stake in the ground and for a glow-light ring toss.

HAVE A SPOON RACE

Set up a starting line and let kids race with the egg in the spoon to the finish line.



Elementary Age

INDOORS

MAKE ICE CREAM IN A BAG

This isn't just ice cream; it's science! Learn about the properties of salt and ice while enjoying a quick and tasty treat.

WRITE A FAMILY NEWSPAPER

This can be a day-long or week-long activity that will help stop the summer slide! Let your kids write all of the sections and tell the "family news" to extended members that are out of town or out of the house.

MAKE PAPER KITES

Pair your kite-making with a family viewing of "Mary Poppins"!

LEARN TO READ A MAP

MapQuest, Google Maps and Waze have made learning how to get somewhere a lost art. Pull out a paper map and let your kids virtually walk to the library, the store or even a relative's house. Map reading teaches intuitive concepts about geography.

MIX UP YOUR BOARD GAMES

Hasbro actually sold board game "mashups," but you can do it at home by mixing up your board games and making up new rules.



OUTDOORS

BACKYARD ASTRONOMY

Spend an entire season outside at night tracking the stars. Let your kids see how the Earth's movement over a summer or winter can change where the stars appear in the sky.

TAKE A PHOTO SCAVENGER HUNT

Whether you pick nature as your subject or objects and colors, let your tweens put their "selfie" skills to the test!

PITCH A TENT

Give your tween the freedom to try backyard camping (with the proximity to head inside in case of rain).

LEARN SIMPLE BIKE REPAIR

With a few YouTube videos, your kids can learn to repair and maintain their bikes.

LEARN TO PRESS FLOWERS

Saving pressed flowers is a great way to preserve the fun of summer.

INDOORS

BUILD COOKING SKILLS

Catch kids baking shows on TV ("Kids Baking Championship" on Food Network or "Masterchef Junior" on FOX) to give your tween some inspiration. Then, help them pick out recipes to tackle on their own.

COMPLETE A CROSSWORD CHALLENGE

Have kids complete a Summer Fun Crossword Puzzle. As part of the puzzle, they can have categories like places to go and things to eat in the summer.

LEARN YOGA

If your tween isn't already a yogi, take some time while you're inside to practice poses. When they get really good, they can teach younger siblings!

COMPLETE A SUMMER READING PROGRAM

Does your local library or school have a reward-based reading program? If not, find one nationally for your kid to win books, pizza, movies and more just for reading!

PLAN A DREAM VACATION

Whether it's to a local fair or across the world, let your tween decide on a destination, figure out who'll go and arrange travel plans. It's a great way to learn organizational skills.

Teens

OUTDOORS

ORGANIZE A NEIGHBORHOOD CHARITY

Whether your kids are cleaning the neighborhood, collecting for a food pantry or making sure everyone's lawn is mowed and raked, giving back to the community is good for more than just service hours.

SLEEP UNDER THE STARS

If your tween is camping outdoors, let your teen try a night without the tent. Also known as "cowboy camping," this is a fun backyard experience with friends.

PLANT A VEGETABLE GARDEN

Your elementary-aged kids have already learned to cook using their home-grown veggies, so let older kids plot and plant the garden themselves.

BURY A TIME CAPSULE

Pick a few knick-knacks and make sure you have a daily newspaper to bury this moment in time. Plan to dig it up in five or 10 years.

WATCH THE SUNRISE

Does your teen typically sleep until noon? Plan a morning to share a cup of coffee, tea or hot cocoa to watch the sun come up.

INDOORS

LEARN TO CODE

If your teen isn't already coding, now is the time to take a few classes to learn the skill (and give them an excuse for more screen time).

MAKE THEIR OWN MUSIC VIDEO

Your kids are probably already making videos for TikTok or YouTube. Channel that energy into a well-choreographed gem!

CREATE TEEN-FRIENDLY CRAFTS

Just when you think your kids are too old for crafts, they can try one that could become an adult hobby (like woodcarving, crochet or building birdhouses).

START JOURNALING

Journals are great for emotional well-being and an excellent place to record thoughts about friends, school, future plans and life.

HOST A MOVIE MARATHON

Whether the movie marathon is with friends or just your family, let your teen plan the movies, the menu and any theme-appropriate activities.



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