



FREE Family Things To Do This Summer

Children grow up too quickly, and after they are all grown up and on their own, what's left are the memories that were made together. The summer months often find parents and caregivers looking for ways to enjoy the extra time with their children without breaking the bank. There are plenty of ways to build a full schedule of summer memories without spending a dollar! Here are a few ideas to get you started.

[Belle Isle](#) is a great place to visit for a casual family picnic and day in the sun or at the beach. Sit close to the James Scott Memorial fountain for a gorgeous summer view, take some time at the Giant Slide to work out some energy (for \$1 per ride), or visit the [Belle Isle Nature Center](#) or [Aquarium](#) if you want to find fun and educational experiences. All attractions at Belle Isle are free, including the 3rd annual [Detroit Kite Festival](#) on Sunday, July 14th.

If you're looking for some quieter, indoor fun, the [Detroit Institute of Arts \(DIA\)](#) is home to more than 60,000 works of art and is free to all residents of Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties. Children under 5 are always free! A day spent in the museum is a good way to encourage creativity and deep thinking, and on the weekends, the DIA has fun activities and events planned specifically for families, including workshops, adventures, special games and family tours throughout the summer.

The [Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History](#) is another great place to inspire young people and let them learn about history. They have a full schedule of events, concerts and workshops that you can choose from, plus a free [Camp Africa Summer](#) available to ages 7-12 with activities centered around technology, engineering, arts and math. The Charles H. Wright Museum also has free admission the second Sunday of every month.

For movie lovers, take the family over to [New Center Park for Movie Night Fridays](#), which are free and open to the public. This summer's line-up includes old favorites and new releases, so bring a blanket, get comfortable on the lawn together and start off your summer weekends with a free movie.

Finally, Detroit Parks & Recreation has a collection of 12 [Detroit Summer Fun Center](#) locations. These centers run from June 24th – August 16th and are open to ages 6-17. Registration fills quickly, but they do accept waitlist applicants.

If you're still looking for inexpensive things to do that are outside of Detroit, be sure to check your local park district for affordable day camps and workshop options, or look through the schedule for [\\$5 Ticket Tuesdays](#) at participating Imagine Theatres.

Whatever you choose to do this summer, we hope you will create memories full of laughter and connection. Make this summer count!