

# Kent Regional 4C 2009 SUMMER GUIDE

2<sup>ND</sup> Edition



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## 2009 Summer Guide Overview

Summer is a wonderful time for youth to have fun and discover the world away from the classroom. Summer experiences can help youth improve their social skills, develop positive self-esteem, learn new skills and have fun. This guide includes a list of day and overnight camps, recreational programs, camps for children with special needs, and other summer experiences for children and the whole family! Use this guide as a tool to help you plan summer experiences that fit your family's unique needs, schedule, budget and interests.

This information was updated for the 2009 summer season, but you will still need to verify all information including fees, schedules, requirements, location, etc. Programs in this guide list websites you can link to for more information. Many offer online registration and online brochures so you can learn all about the camp or activity you are interested in. Visit the links to online camp searches where one can find a scuba camp to an overseas camping experience and everything in between. The sky's the limit as to the many types of experiences waiting for you and your child.

This guide is intended as a resource and referral list only. Kent Regional 4C cannot guarantee the quality of any camp or summer program nor warrant information concerning any program, service, or resource. This list is not an endorsement or recommendation of any program, service, or resource, nor is it a complete list. Kent Regional 4C also cannot endorse, ensure the accuracy of, or vouch for the safety and privacy of any website listed in this guide. Ultimately, each parent will need to make their own assessment of summer camps and other summer experiences to determine what is best for their child.

View the IRS article **Parents Can Get Credit for Sending Kids to Day Camp** at <http://www.irs.gov/newsroom/article/0,,id=172245,00.html> to see how the cost of day camp can count as an expense towards the child and dependent care credit. Also, many camps and some summer programs offer sliding fee scales and/or scholarships for eligible families so be sure to ask about these.

Parents needing full- and part-time child care for the summer or the school year can call 616/451-8281 ext. 230 or use the online referral form at [http://www.4cchildcare.org/parents.php?page=req\\_referrals](http://www.4cchildcare.org/parents.php?page=req_referrals) to request a list of licensed child care providers and/or centers.

Kent Regional 4C publishes the Summer Guide as a community service. Readers are encouraged to make copies and share, but please credit Kent Regional 4C. Give us and feedback by completing the [2009 Summer Guide Survey \(click here\)](#). You can also access the survey from our website. If you have questions about this guide or about choosing a summer activity, please contact Kent Regional 4C at the phone numbers and extension listed. You can also visit our website at <http://www.4Cchildcare.org> to learn more about the agency.

### Have a great summer!





## STAYING HOME ALONE

As our children get older, we begin to wonder if they can stay home alone while we run errands, socialize, and work. It's a difficult decision, and not one that should be made quickly or without thought. To help guide your decision, consider your child's and your readiness.

You need to feel comfortable and confident your child will be safe and responsible while s/he is home alone. Look at all the factors involved, prepare and plan with your child, and continually evaluate to determine success.

In Michigan, there is not a specific age at which children may legally stay home alone. Experts in the field of young children believe nine years old is the youngest age a child could be left alone for short periods.

Don't base your decision on age alone. Not all nine-year-olds are the same. With most developmental milestones, being mature enough to stay alone is based on the individual child.

To find out if your child is ready to stay alone, ask him about his comfort level staying alone and does he feel responsible enough to do so. Ask your child to perform some tasks – fix a sandwich, lock the door, or respond to the smoke alarm. Play "What if?" games to see how they would deal with different situations.

A child needs to be emotionally and socially ready to stay alone. This means he is confident and secure about staying home alone. She can talk easily with you about activities and how she feels about them. He would call another adult if a problem arose. He knows how to handle boredom, fear, and loneliness. She can solve conflicts.

A child needs to be physically and mentally ready to stay alone. She can lock and unlock the doors and open windows. He can prepare a snack and meal for himself. He can think through the steps required to deal with emergencies. He knows how to appropriately use the computer (if this is an option).

Besides determining if your child is ready, willing and able to stay alone, consider these other issues. It is recommended that children not stay home alone all day and all week while a parent travels to and from

and works 40 hours. Although you may think you have planned enough work and play activities to keep her occupied, time moves slower when you are by yourself. Boredom can set in. Statistics show that children who are bored and lonely get into trouble.

Look at your neighborhood. Do you and your family feel safe? Children need to have a reliable adult nearby.

Decide if you have any other circumstances that would influence your decision. One situation may be a child's special medical, physical or emotional need. Another situation may be siblings – how many children will be home, and how do they relate to one another. Another thing to consider is if your family is going through a transition such as moving, divorce, or addition of a family member. Transitions can cause stress, and stress can mean an otherwise responsible child isn't confident or secure.

Once you have made the decision to let your child stay alone, begin with short periods. As your child meets with success, extend the time.

Work with your child to set guidelines about what she can and cannot do. Plan some activities. Limit TV and computer time. Encourage reading, practicing a sports skill, doing arts and crafts, and playing games.

Because all day, all week home alone care is discouraged, look through this guide for additional ideas for camps, recreational programs, cultural activities, and groups your child may join.

If you determine staying home alone doesn't work for your family, call Kent Regional 4C for referrals to child care facilities that have programs for school-age children.

### Web resources

[http://www.nncc.org/SACC/sac31\\_home\\_alone.html](http://www.nncc.org/SACC/sac31_home_alone.html)

[http://www.kidshealth.org/parent/positive/family/home\\_alone.html](http://www.kidshealth.org/parent/positive/family/home_alone.html)

## **Is your child is ready for SELF CARE?**

There is no magic age or “right” time for a child to be responsible for his/her own care. It is recommended not to leave a child under 10 years home alone. You must consider the child’s maturity level and your comfort level before you make any decision.

The following checklist may assist you in making that decision. Use the check list as a tool to the appropriateness of self care for your child.

1. Does my child follow through with assigned responsibilities according to my directions?
2. Does my child execute good judgment when I am not there for consultation?
3. Does my child know where to locate first aid supplies?
4. Does my child know where to go in case of a storm?
5. Does my child know escape route in case of a fire?
6. Has my child expressed comfort about being home alone?
7. If there will be more than one child at home, do they generally get along with each other?
8. Does my child express fears, directly or indirectly, about being home alone? Consider creating a “safe room” by installing a deadbolt and keeping a cell phone in a designated room (be sure to hide a key in case someone gets locked in). Also consider creating a secret word that only you and your child know.
9. Does my child know how to reach parents at work - or two other adults in case of an emergency?
10. Does my child demonstrate correct procedures for handling strangers at the door?
11. Our neighborhood is generally safe?
12. Can my child give directions to our home?

## Tips for Selecting Summer Activities

**1. What are your child's/teen's interests?** Use the guide to help you select summer camps and activities for your child or teen. Involve your child and talk with him/her about what he or she might like to do this summer. Your child might not be ready for an overnight camp, but day camp may be just right. There are many summer activities in this guide for almost every interest and age. Visit the websites of those you are interested in to learn more about what is offered. You can also use the Activities checklist on page 6 to help identify your child's interests.

**2. Ask about the staff.** What training and experience does staff have or receive? How is staff screened? What are the ages of the staff and what are the desired qualities in staff? What percentage of the staff returned from last year? What is the director's background? How does the program handle special needs? Is staff trained in CPR, First Aid, water safety, etc.?

**3. Ask for references.** Consider asking for names of parents whose children participated in activities last year and talk to them about their experiences with the camp or program. How many participants return each year? Is the program accredited? Ask your friends if they are familiar with the activity or camp. Find out where your child's friends are going to camp. Children enjoy being with their buddies so consider enrolling them in a summer activity with their friend.

**4. How many children and staff are in a group?** Ask about child to staff ratios and group size. Is there enough staff to meet the children's needs? Younger children need more supervision and some activities like swimming require more supervision.

**5. What is the program emphasis, the program's philosophy, and discipline policy?** How will your child spend their time or day in this program? Do the rules and philosophy compliment your parenting style? Are the policies in writing? Is the camp licensed and accredited? Accredited camps need to meet high standards. How long has the program been operating?

**6. Are parents welcome to observe the activity or visit the camp before sending a child?** Many overnight camps host an open house affording an opportunity to explore the camp, meet staff and ask questions. Can parents "drop in" at any time to check on their children and the services provided? When you observe activities do they look safe? Do youth appear to be having a good time and involved in the activity? Are staff competent and do they enjoy leading, interacting with, and instructing participants?

**7. Do you understand payment policies and other rules?** Most camps and programs have a registration form that covers their policies – be sure to read it and ask for clarification if you have questions. If you and your child decide the activity is not appropriate, is there a refund?

What are the sign-in and sign-out procedures? If a class is missed, can it be made up? Is financial assistance offered? Are any scholarships, "camperships," sliding fee scales, or other discounts available?

**8. Make sure your child is comfortable staying away from home for an extended time if they want to go to an overnight camp.** Listen and talk about concerns you and your child may have. If your child has never been away from home, consider having them stay at a friend's or grandparent's home before camp. Find out what the camp's policy is about homesickness and other adjustment issues. Many children sign up with a friend when they go to camp, which can help make the experience more enjoyable.



## What is your child interested in learning more about? Use this list to help you and your child decide.

Also read the article *How to Make the Most of Summer What Parents Can Do to Keep Kids Sharp Over the Summer* at <http://www.summerlearning.org/media/researchandpublications/2009/ParentTipsBW.pdf>

<b>Athletic Activities</b>	Yes	No	Maybe
Activity			
Aerobics			
Archery			
Badminton			
Baseball, Softball			
Basketball			
Baton Twirling			
Bicycling			
Boating			
Bowling			
Canoeing			
Croquet			
Darts			
Fishing			
Football			
Frisbee			
Golf			
Gymnastics			
Hiking			
Horseback Riding			
Jogging			
Judo			
Juggling			
Karate			
Racquetball			
Rollerblading/ Skateboard			

Soccer			
Swimming			
Tai Chi			
Tennis			
Track & Field			
Water Skiing			
Wrestling			
Yoga			
<b>Arts and Crafts</b>	Y	N	M
Airplanes			
Architectural Design			
Cake Decorating			
Calligraphy			
Candle Making			
Carpentry			
Ceramics			
Computer Graphics			
Drawing			
Knitting			
Origami			
Painting			
Photography			
Pottery			
Sculpting			
Sewing			
Woodworking			
<b>Dance</b>	Yes	No	Maybe
Ballet			
Ballroom			
Belly Dance			
Creative			

Movement			
Jazz			
Modern			
Square Dancing			
Swing			
Tap			
<b>Drama</b>	Yes	No	Maybe
Clown Lessons			
Community Theater			
Costuming			
Improvisation			
Magic			
Theater Make-up			
Mime			
Mysteries			
Play Production			
Play Writing			
Prop Making			
Puppetry			
Set Construction			
Storytelling			
Ventriloquism			
<b>Music</b>	Yes	No	Maybe
Band			
Chamber Music			
Chorus			
Instrument Making			
Song Writing			
Voice Lessons			
Instrument			

Lessons	Y	N	M
<b>Outdoor &amp; Nature Activities</b>			
Animal Farm or Shelter			
Astronomy			
Audubon Societies			
Backpacking			
Beach			
Bird Watching			
Botanical Gardens			
Build a birdfeeder			
Butterfly Watching			
Fruit Farms			
Geology			
Life on a River			
Natural History			
Nature Centers			
Plant a Garden			
Pond Life			
Science			
Trees, shrubs, flowers			
Wild edible plants			
Zoo			

Other:

## Residential Camp Resources

- **American Camping Association (ACA) Michigan Section of Accredited Camps** <http://www.acacamps.org/parents/>  
Visit website for a list or call 616/245-5255 to request a free guide of accredited camps. Offer advice about choosing a camp.
- **State of Michigan Camp Licensing** The State of Michigan issues licenses for camps. Go to <http://www.michigan.gov/dhs> and click "Licensing" under the Quick Links on the right to learn more about licensing requirements for camps. For a list of all licensed camps in Michigan go to [http://www.dleg.state.mi.us/brs\\_cwl/sr\\_cac.asp](http://www.dleg.state.mi.us/brs_cwl/sr_cac.asp).
- **West Michigan Summer Camps**  
<http://www.westmismummercamps.org/> Search for camps in the West Michigan area. Host an Annual Camp and Summer Expo.
- **KidsHealth** <http://www.kidshealth.org>  
Click "Parents site" then type "camp" in the search bar for a list of informative camp related articles.
- **Resources for online camp searches**
  - ☞ <http://www.gocamps.com>
  - ☞ <http://www.grfamily.com>
  - ☞ <http://www.fcacamps.org/gotocamp.php>
  - ☞ <http://www.allensguide.com>
  - ☞ <http://www.summercamps.org>



## Sampling of Licensed Camps in West Michigan

**Camp Anna Behrens** <http://www.gsmt.org>  
616/784-3341 or 800/442-1401 Ages 6-17.  
Greenville

**Camp Blodgett**  
<http://www.campblodgett.org>  
616/949-0780 Ages 8-13. West Olive

**Camp Henry** <http://www.camphenry.org>  
616/459-2267 Ages 5-17. Newaygo

**Camp O'Malley**  
<http://www.grkidsandcops.org>  
616/233-9370 Ages 6-17. Alto

**Camp Roger** <http://www.camproger.org>  
616/874-7286 Ages 7-17. Rockford

**Camp Tall Turf** <http://www.tallturf.org>  
616/459-7206 Ages 8-17. Walkerville Also  
offer Asthma Camp, Single Parent Family  
Camp and Hispanic/Latino Family Camp.

**Circle A Ranch** <http://www.circlea.org>  
616/866-9979 Ages 11-17. Rockford.

**Little Pine Island Camp**  
<http://www.lpicamp.org>  
616/784-1404 Ages 5-17. Comstock Park

**Mel Trotter Ministries**  
<http://www.meltrotter.org>  
269/793-0041 or 616/293-6492 Ages 7-16.

**Pine Ridge Bible Camp**  
<http://www.pineridgecamp.com>  
616/696-8675 Ages 6-17. Cedar Springs

**YMCA Camp Manitou-Lin**  
<http://www.campmanitou-lin.org>  
888/909-2267 Ages 4-17. Middleville

## **Arts Camps and Classes**

Visit the links or call for more information about each art/cultural program's offerings.

### **Allegro School of Music – Kindermusik Classes, Lessons and Development** <http://www.allegrogr.com/>

Aldersgate United Methodist Church, 4301 Ambrose NE, Grand Rapids 49525

During the summer Kindermusik will offer a variety of sessions for babies, toddlers, preschoolers and entire families. Co-sponsoring a Creative Arts Day Camp in August for ages 5 to 12 culminating in a full musical production. Please see website or contact Lyn [lyn@allegroGR.com](mailto:lyn@allegroGR.com) or 616/301-3888 for more information.

### **Arts Council of Greater Grand Rapids Summer 2009 Arts Flyer** - fun activities for K-12

[http://www.artsggr.org/Resources/2009\\_SummerArtsFlyer.pdf](http://www.artsggr.org/Resources/2009_SummerArtsFlyer.pdf) (215k Acrobat PDF)

616/459-2787

### **Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp** <http://www.bluelake.org/>

300 East Crystal Lake Rd. Twin Lake, MI 49457

800/221-3796 Offer programs for junior high and high school students focusing on music, art, dance and drama.

### **Children's Opera Workshop 2008 "Hiawatha"**

616/245-4038 Ask for Liz. Casting June 13; workshop June 15 – 19 for ages 6-12. Opera based on a Native American Poem by Longfellow. Workshop ends with a performance Friday evening. Cost is \$200 and includes costume.

### **Cook Arts Center Summer Camps** <http://www.gaahgr.blogspot.com>

644 Grandville Avenue SW Grand Rapids, 49503 616/742-0692

**Mini Arts Camp** June 22 – July 30 M-TH 1-3pm 6 -16 years. Free to children who reside in our target area (south of Wealthy, north of Burton, west of Century and east of Godfrey/Clyde Park).

**Summer Arts Camp** August 3- 14 M-F 9-3:30pm, for children ages 8 to 12. Tuition is \$10 for children who reside in our target area (south of Wealthy, north of Burton, west of Century and east of Godfrey/Clyde Park).

### **Education through Music Fine Arts Day Camp**

June 15-19. Full Day camp 9 am - 2:30 pm for children ages 10+ and adults; Half Day camp 9 am to noon - children ages 7-9; Younger's Program 9:30-11:30 am children ages 4-6 (parent or caregiver must attend with the child). Full Day Camp \$175 per person, Half Day Camp \$100 per person, Younger's Program \$125 for 1 adult and child. email Jeri at [jlblough@msn.com](mailto:jlblough@msn.com), or Barb 616/949-7306 for more information.

### **Grand Rapids Civic Theatre and School of Theatre Arts Summer Day Camps**

<http://www.grct.org/education/summercamps.html>

30 N. Division Ave. Grand Rapids, 49503 616/222-6653 GRCT offers a variety of different camps for ages 4yrs – 10<sup>th</sup> grade. Camps consist of age-appropriate, hands-on experience in acting, singing, dancing, props & costumes. Camps finish up with a stage performance for family and friends.

### **Grand Rapids School of Ballet Company** <http://www.grballet.com/>

341 Ellsworth Grand Rapids, 49503

616/454-4771 ext 17. Six-week summer intensive programs for ages 5 and up and there are 6 different levels. Special ballet camps for 3 and 4 yr olds. Download summer brochure at website.

### **Holland Area Arts Council** <http://www.hollandarts.org>

150 East 8th Street Holland 616/396-3278

### **Interlochen Arts Camp** <http://www.interlochen.org/>

4000 Highway M-137 Interlochen, 49643

231/276-7470 or 800/681-5912 Interlochen Arts Camp attracts students, faculty and staff from all 50 states and more than 40 countries. Offers intensive training in music, dance, visual arts, creative writing, motion picture arts, and theater for 3<sup>rd</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> grade.

**Kendall College of Art and Design of Ferris State University Summer Classes**

<http://www.kcad.edu/youth-adults/youth>

17 Fountain Street Grand Rapids, 49503

616/451-2787 or 800/676-ARTS Painting, Clay, Fashion Illustration, Computer design, Photography, Jewelry making and other classes for ages 6-17.

**Kenowa Hills Theatre Day Camp** <http://pac.khps.org/>

616/647-0939 Theatre Arts camp is June 22-26 for students in grades 3-6 (as of fall 2009). Cost is \$65.00. Call, visit website, or email [aghareeb@khps.org](mailto:aghareeb@khps.org) for more information.

**Kindermusik** <http://kindermusikwithmisstamara.kindermusik.net/>

616/284-7491 A program of music and movement for young children. Take a ride on the Kindermusik Zoo Train this June for families with children newborn through 7-years-old. All classes held at the Bailey's Grove Community Clubhouse.

**Lowell Area Arts Council** <http://www.lowellartscouncil.org/> 616/897-8545

**Mark Kistler's Summer 2009 Art Camps!** <http://www.draw3d.com/GRapidsBothinfo.html>

888/837-2933 Mark Kistler of Public Television's "Mark Kistler's Imagination Station" teaches drawing in 3-D workshop at Ferris State University in Downtown Grand Rapids. 5 different sessions offered July 13-17.

**Master Arts Theatre Summer Youth Events** <http://www.masterarts.org/youth.html>

75 -77th St SW Grand Rapids, 49548

616/455-1001 or 800/455-5003

**Hudsonville Summer Production** Practice Starts May with special one week training, June 15 - 20

Two days of performing Auditions April 25 & 27

**Youth Summer Stock** July 6 - 23, 2009 Two weeks of training One week of performances Auditions May 2 & 4

**Arts Day Camps** Two weeks to choose from July 6 - 10 or July 13 - 17, 2009 Each day each student has a class in Drama, Dance, Art and Mime No Auditions Necessary

**The Mud Room in Ada** <http://www.themudroom.us>

616/682-9706 Camp Mud classes (for kids age 7+ and for Teens) explore Glass Fusing techniques, Pottery Wheel lessons, and Clay Handbuilding fun. Open studio time to Paint Pottery or create with Glass Fusing is available for groups and individuals. Call or visit website for dates and times.

**Naked Plates Summer Camps at Breton Village Mall** <http://www.nakedplates.com>

616/975-9650 Camps will feature pottery related projects.

**North American Choral Company Creative Summer Arts Camps 2009** [www.thechoralcompany.com](http://www.thechoralcompany.com)

616/774-9268 3 Camp Sessions for 2009, location and dates to be announced soon. For children entering 1<sup>st</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grade in the fall of 2009. Fee includes snacks and a t-shirt.

**St. Cecilia Music Center Summer Camps** <http://www.scmc-online.org/>

24 Ransom Avenue NE Grand Rapids, 49503

**Piano Camp** information and application online or call Martha 616/459-224 or for more information.

**The Stella Royce Music Camp** for children ages 8 through 14 August 3 - 7, 2009

**Alternative for Strings** for kids 6 through 12 grade July 13 - 17, 2009.

Camper numbers limited; parents encouraged to contact Martha 616-459-2224 as soon as possible.

**Urban Institute for Contemporary Arts** <http://www.uica.org>

41 Sheldon Blvd, Grand Rapids 49503 616/454-7000

**ARTWORKS SUMMER: GET INVOLVED!** Contact Becca 616/454-7000 x17 or [artworks@uica.org](mailto:artworks@uica.org) for more info.

Young Adult (ages 14-21) – Submit an application for a community arts internship! Leave your mark in Grand Rapids by being part of a project team that designs and creates a public art piece!

Adult (ages 21+) – Volunteer as an assistant artist! Help the UICA provide opportunities to area student in arts-based service projects.

**stUdio CreAte SUMMER ART CAMPS** Contact Elizabeth 616/454-7000 x25 or [egoddard@uica.org](mailto:egoddard@uica.org) for more info.

Members: \$75.00 Non-Members: \$90.00 Camp offerings include Green Art: Smart and Sustainable July 20-24 Kids 5-8; Fashion Re-Design - Transforming Junky into Funky July 20-24 Kids 9 -13; 3D Thinkin' with a Re-Purpose Kids 5-8; and Exploring Ceramics July 27 – 31 Kids 9-13.

**West Catholic Fine Arts Camp** <http://www.grwestcatholic.org>

616/233-5939 Ask for Lisa. Camp is June 15 – 19, 2009, 8:30 AM - 12:00pm, Art Show and Performance to be held Friday. For students entering grades 4 - 8. Cost is \$30 if registered by May 31. Classes offered: Art, Band, Cartooning, Chorus, Creative Writing, Dance, Drawing, Drama, and Graphic Design.

**Youth Theatre Grand Rapids summer Camp 2009** [http://www.ytgr.org/YTGR/Summer\\_Camp.html](http://www.ytgr.org/YTGR/Summer_Camp.html)  
**616/295-3682**

June 22 – 26 Musical Theatre Camp at Lakeside Elementary Grades 3 – 8 9AM – 12pm \$125.00

July 6 – 10 Circus Camp at GR Christian High School Grades 4 – 8 9 AM - 3 PM \$250.00

July 13 - 17 Magic Camp at GR Christian High School Grades 5 – 12 9AM - 1PM \$150.00

July 27 – 31 Musical Theatre Camp at GR Christian High School (Disney's Aristocats) Grades 3-5 9 AM - Noon  
Grades 6 - 8 1PM - 4PM \$125.00. You MUST visit <http://www.dcaaw.org> to register for all camps at GR Christian.

## **College-Sponsored Camps**

Colleges offer a variety of summer camps. Visit the links or call for more information about each camp.

**Aquinas College Sports Camps** <http://www.aquinas.edu/athletics/> 616/632-2474

**Aquinas College Jazz Camp** [http://www.aquinas.edu/music/jazz\\_camp.html](http://www.aquinas.edu/music/jazz_camp.html) 616/632-2413

8<sup>th</sup> graders through college.

**Aquinas College Reading Clinic** <http://www.aquinas.edu/readingclinic/index.html> 616/632-2066

Diagnostic and instructional services for students in grades K - 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

**Aquinas College Totally Awesome, Most Excellent, Way Cool Summer Science Program**

616/632-2446 July 28 – August 6, from 1-5pm for kids entering 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grades. Cost is \$40.

**Aquinas College and Saint Thomas the Apostle Catholic School "College for Kids" summer programs**

[http://www.stthomasgr.org/news/College\\_for\\_Kids\\_summer\\_09\\_final%20printed.pdf](http://www.stthomasgr.org/news/College_for_Kids_summer_09_final%20printed.pdf) **616/648-1878**

**Calvin College Summer Camps** <http://www.calvin.edu/academic/summer/camps/>

[Academic Camps of Excellence \(ACE\)](#) 616/ 526-6200; [Foreign Language Camps](#) 616/526-6361; [Summer Sports Camps](#) 616/526-6176; [Baseball](#); [Basketball \(b\)](#); [Basketball \(g\)](#); [Boys' Basketball \(Overnight\)\\* New!](#); [Diving\\* New!](#); [Soccer](#); [Softball](#); [Swimming](#); [Tennis](#); [Volleyball](#); [Competitive Swim Camps](#); [Summer League Swim Team](#); [Chemistry Camps](#) 616/26-8801; [Knollcrest Music Camp](#) 616/526-7145; [Striving Toward Educational Possibilities \(S.T.E.P.\)](#) 616/526-6749; [Wetlands and Woodlands Camp](#) 616/526-7601

**Central Michigan University Sports Camps**

[http://www.cmuchippewas.com/ViewArticle.dbml?&DB\\_LANG=C&DB\\_OEM\\_ID=10500&ATCLID=776873](http://www.cmuchippewas.com/ViewArticle.dbml?&DB_LANG=C&DB_OEM_ID=10500&ATCLID=776873)

800/268-4386 View schedule at [https://ssl.cmich.edu/athletics/camp/camp\\_schedule.asp](https://ssl.cmich.edu/athletics/camp/camp_schedule.asp)

**Cornerstone University Sports Camps** [http://www.cornerstone.edu/athletics/sports\\_camp/](http://www.cornerstone.edu/athletics/sports_camp/)

616/254-1671

**Cornerstone Journalism Institute Summer Camp** <http://www.cornerstone.edu/events/cji>

616/222-1504.

**Ferris State University 2009 Summer Academic and Skills Camps** <http://cps.ferris.edu> Click 2009 Summer Academic and Skills Camps 800/562-9130 or 231/591-5824  
[Biotechnology](#) [Computer Technology](#) [Criminal Justice](#) [Engineering & Technology](#) [Exploration Academies](#)  
[Introduction to Software Engineering](#); [Introduction to Animation and Game Design](#); [Advanced Animation and Game](#) [Television & Digital Media Production Camp](#)

**Ferris State University Sports Camps** <https://ferris.edu/sports/camps> 866/950-2267

**Grand Rapids Community College Summer Fun Series**  
[https://learning.grcc.edu/ec2k/Heading.asp?heading\\_id=49](https://learning.grcc.edu/ec2k/Heading.asp?heading_id=49)  
616/234-GRCC

**Grand Valley State University Athletic Camps** <http://www.gvsulakers.collegesports.com/camps/grva-camps.html>  
616/ 331-8800

**GVSU Science Technology & Engineering Preview Summer (STEPS) Camp for Girls** <http://www.gvsu.edu/steps>  
616/331-2267 June 22-25, 2009 and June 29- July 2, 2009 Visit website for list of eligibility requirements.

**GVSU Summer Computer Camp and Get with the Program (a robotics camp)** <http://www.gvsu.edu/rmsc/>  
616/331-2267

**GVSU Lake Michigan Writing Project Summer 2009 Laker Writers' Camps**  
<http://lmwritingproject.org/public-content/info-for-parents-and-students> 616/331-2994

**Belding** June 15 – 18; entering grades 3-6; 8:30 am – 12:30 pm

**Grand Rapids** July 13 – 16; entering grades 3-8; 8:30 am – 12:30pm

**Holland** July 27-30 1; entering grades 3-6; 8:30am- 12:30 pm

Cost is \$100 (2 or more siblings enrolled the cost is \$90 per child). Limited scholarships available.

**Hope College Summer Camps** <http://www.hope.edu/camps/index.html>

616/395-7811 Lots of science and sports camps to choose from.

**Kendall College of Art and Design Summer Classes** <http://www.kcad.edu/youth-adults>  
See page 9 in this guide.

**Michigan State University Spartan Youth Programs** <http://www.spartanyouth.msu.edu/>.  
1/800-500-1554 Programs and activities for pre-k through 12th grade.

**MSU Gifted and Talented Education (GATE) Programs** <http://www.msu.edu/user/gifted/>  
517/432-2129

**MSU Operation Military Kids (OMK) "Home Front Heroes" Summer Camps**

Phone: 517-432-7618

<http://web1.msue.msu.edu/cyf/youth/omk/Activities.htm>

**Montcalm Community College Summer Camps 2009** <http://www.montcalm.edu/recreation/summercamp.htm>  
989/328-2111

**Western Michigan University Camps and Clinics** <http://www.wmubroncos.com/> click "Camps and Clinics"  
269/387-3061



## **Museum Camps**

Museums offer a variety of experiences including art, music, nature, science, creative and performing arts.

**Blandford Nature Center** <http://www.blandfordnaturecenter.org/> Day Camps click "Programs"

1715 Hillburn NW, Grand Rapids, 49504

616/735-6240 Offering Summer Day Camps for children grade and other events.

**Frederick Meijer Gardens** <http://www.meijergardens.org/education/>

1000 East Beltline Avenue NE, Grand Rapids, 49525

888/957-1580 or 616/975-3147 Offering 30 camps for children ages 4-14 this summer.

**Holland Museum** <http://www.hollandmuseum.org/>

31 W. 10th St. Holland, 49423

616/394-1362 or 888/200-9123

Summer fun for the whole family at the Holland and the Cappon & Settlers House Museums. Check website for fees and details.

**VICTORIAN GIRLS**, June 19, 10:30 AM - Noon Cappon House For ages 7 and up. Cost: \$15, \$10 member child.

Limited space; registration is required; call 616/394-9084 by June 12.

**CIVIL WAR KIDS**, July 17, 11 AM – 3 PM Holland Armory Experience American history; learn what life was like for American children during the Civil War. For ages 7 and up. Cost: \$15, member child \$10. Limited space;

registration is required call 616/394-9084 by July 10.

**Public Museum – Camp Curiosity 2009** [http://www.grmuseum.org/plan\\_your\\_visit/families/summer\\_camps](http://www.grmuseum.org/plan_your_visit/families/summer_camps)

272 Pearl Street NW Grand Rapids 49504

616/456-3977 Fossil Hunters; Reach for the Stars; Slimy Science I and II; Young Wizards Academy I and II; Life of a Knight I and II, Sew What??; If you Build It; You Go Girls!!; Kites, Planes and Rockets; Life of a Princess; Crafts Around the World; Native American Life; Read & Connect One Day Summer Academy; Home School Summers

**Grand Rapids Art Museum Summer Arts Camp 2009**

<http://www.artmuseumgr.org/home/page/Summer+Art+Camps+2009>

101 Monroe Center Grand Rapids 49503

616/831-2928 Art-tastic Adventures July 13 - 17 (5 - 7 yrs) July 20 - 24 (8 - 11 yrs); Art to the Future July 27 - 31 (5 - 7 yrs) August 3 - 7 (8 - 11 yrs); Sculpture Mania for Middle School Students August 10 - 14 (Grades 6, 7, and 8).

**Voigt House Victorian Days Camps** [http://www.grmuseum.org/voigt\\_house](http://www.grmuseum.org/voigt_house)

115 College, SE Grand Rapids, 49503

616/456-3977 Grandma's Kitchen; Victorian Girls; and Miss Victorian's Manners

## **Other Organizations**

More camps, classes and activities for youth.

**American Red Cross of Greater Grand Rapids - Babysitters Training**

<http://greatergrandrapids.redcross.org/home.htm> click Education, then Youth Training, and then Babysitter's Training; contact Karen [karndt@ggr.redcross.org](mailto:karndt@ggr.redcross.org) 616/456-8661 x3555 for more information.

**Boys & Girls Club of Greater Holland** <http://www.bgch.org/>

Holland, Michigan 49423

616/392-4102 Offers summer day camp in the Holland area June-August. Call or go online for information

**Byron Township Enrichment Programs for Youth** [http://www.byrontownship.org/enrichment\\_programs.htm](http://www.byrontownship.org/enrichment_programs.htm)

616/878-1998 Babysitting, cooking club, knitting, Tae Kwon do and more.

**Camp Compass** Saturday September 26, 2009

Contact Nancy at 616/391-3232. The camp serves children 5-15 yrs. who have been affected by the death of someone important in their daily lives. Camp Compass is filled with interactive projects and play designed to offer education and skills for navigating grief. Cost is \$10.

**Camp Fire USA West Michigan Council** <http://www.campfireusawmc.org>

616/949-2500 ext. 21 Camp Fire offers youth a safe place to go for fun activities, field trips and summer learning. Programs serve children and youth who reside in particular neighborhoods and attend 10 GRPS schools. Please call for more information.

**Camp Good Grief - Grief Support for the Whole Family**

This camp is designed for families that have experience the death of a loved one August 4, 5 and 6, 5:00 – 8:00 pm. For more information or to register, call Hospice of Michigan at 616/356-5258.

**Canterbury Creek Farm Summer Preschool Program** <http://www.adafarmschool.com>

616/676-0248 5 week summer program for 3-5 yr olds.

**Catholic Central Cheerleading Mini-Camp** <http://www.graceac.com/> or

<http://www.grcatholiccentral.com/GRCS/CCHS/Athletics/camps.htm>

Catholic Central Gymnasium – 319 Sheldon Mall SE

616/534-2108 Ask for Sue June 9–11, 8:30 – 11:30am for preschool through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Cost is \$50.

**Catholic Central Golf Camp** 616/970-9987 Camp will be in July with a morning and afternoon session offered at Centennial Country Club. \$90 per golfer.

**Churches** - Inquire at local churches about Bible school programs or other summer programs.

**City of Grand Rapids Youth Commission** [http://www.ci.grand-rapids.mi.us/index.pl?page\\_id=255](http://www.ci.grand-rapids.mi.us/index.pl?page_id=255)

616/456-3558 Members are high school students who are residents of the city. They act as a voice for youth to the city government to help plan for a better future.

**City of Grand Rapids YouthNet Program** [http://www.ci.grand-rapids.mi.us/index.pl?page\\_id=242](http://www.ci.grand-rapids.mi.us/index.pl?page_id=242)

The site links to a Geographic Information System that allows citizens to access information about after school programs in the Grand Rapids area.

**Community Education**

Check with your local office to see if they will be offering summer activities/classes.

**Detroit Lions Youth Football Summer Camps** [www.DetroitLions.com/youthfootball](http://www.DetroitLions.com/youthfootball)

**Quarterback-Wide Receiver Academy** Saturday and Sunday August 1 and August 2

**Youth Football Camp** Monday – Thursday June 8-11

**High School Football** 7 on 7 Passing Tournament Saturday, June 20 MVP Fieldhouse, Grand Rapids

Camps are in Grand Rapids and Jenison. To register or for more information on either camp, call Chris, Director of Youth Football, at 313/262-2248 or email his at [cfritzsching@detroitlions.com](mailto:cfritzsching@detroitlions.com)

**Forest Hills Community Enrichment Classes** <http://www.enjoylearning.com/>

616/493-8950 Offer enrichment opportunities year round for 18 months and up.

**Franciscan Life Process Center in Lowell** <http://www.lifeprocesscenter.org/>

616/897-7842 Classes for adults and children include Art Workshops, Taking Flight, Advanced nature Preschool for "young explorers", ages 3-5, Summer Music Lessons, Franciscan Retreats and Work Days.

**GRASP – Grand Rapids Academic Summer Program** <http://www.grpublicschools.org/grasp>

616/819-2548 A nine-week correspondence program in reading and math for grades k-8. The program seeks to help students retain skills learned during the past school year by providing review exercises. One subject costs \$37 and both subjects cost \$61. Some schools offer GRASP at a discount – check with your school for details. Sign up by June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

**Grand Rapids Griffins Youth Hockey Camp** <http://griffinshockey.com/community/programs/>

616/774-4585 ext. 3025, Kelly. Camp is August 3 - 7, 8:30 am – 3:15 pm, ages 6 – 16 yrs old, \$300 per week per child and includes camp jersey, t-shirt, hat, and daily lunch.

**Grand Rapids Public Library Summer Reading Program** <http://www.grpl.org/>

616/988-5400 Starts June and ends in August.

**Grand Rapids Rowing Association** <http://www.grrowing.org/home.html>

Grand Rapids Crew is for young men and women 9th to 12th grades (7th and 8th graders based on coach's approval). No experience is needed all beginners receive basic rowing technique instruction.

**Grand Rapids Summer Loop Programs** <http://grpublicschools.org/grps1/> click Programs then click the Loop link 616/819-2165 Free summer programs at many Grand Rapids Public Schools.

**Grandville Summer Quest** <http://www.grandville.k12.mi.us> under Administration tab click Community Education 616/254-6553 Classes are open to any interested students in Grandville or outside the district, who are ready for fun, learning, exploration, and a good challenge. Catalog available in May.

**GT Resource Network** <http://www.gtresourcenetwork.org> click Summer Programs." 616/526-5878 A network supporting gifted and talented students and their families.

**Gymco Sports** <http://www.gymco.com>

2306 Camelot Ridge Court SE Grand Rapids, 49546  
616/956-0586 Offer a variety of summer classes and camps.



**High Schools**

Call area High Schools to inquire about summer camp offerings.

**Horizon Complex in Jenison** <http://www.borntoflip.com>

616/669-7722 Summer classes for cheerleading, gymnastics and hip-hop dance and Tuesday Camps that include crafts, gymnastics and other activities for ages 2-18.

**Honoring Our Youth (HOY) Program** <http://www.hispanic-center.org>

Two locations:

Hispanic Center of Western Michigan 616/734-0529 Gerardo or Annette 616/742-0895

Steepletown Neighborhood Services 616/451-4215 Ask for Dick 101

This program is for Kent County youth, ages 14 to 21 that meet the federal household income guidelines and are committed to improving their situation, whatever that may be. Youth are encouraged to apply at either the Hispanic Center of Western Michigan or Steepletown Neighborhood Services.

**Horseback Riding Camp at Meadowview Farm, Inc** <http://www.meadowview-farm.com>

**9914 Vergennes, Lowell 49331**

616/453-2371 or 616/897-9944

Day Camp runs June 22-26, July 13-17, or August 17-21



**John Ball Zoo** <http://www.johnballzoosociety.org> click Education

1300 W. Fulton St

616/336-4301 general number to zoo; 616/336-4310 education's direct number

**Summer Discovery Classes** For children ages 3 yrs to those entering 8<sup>th</sup> grade in the fall. Classes are offered June 22<sup>nd</sup> through August 20<sup>th</sup> and range from 2-5 days long/10-12.5 hrs total. Costs range from \$60-\$80 for members and \$65-\$85 for nonmembers.

**Teen Volunteer Program** For teens ages 14-17 years. Program runs mid-June through late-August with teens volunteering one weekday per week and one weekend day per month. Application is due May 8, 2009.

**Kent County 4-H**

**4-H Exploration Days June 24 -26, 2009** <http://web1.msue.msu.edu/cyf/youth/expodays.html>

This annual MSU pre-college program offers participants (both 4-H members and non 4-H members) nearly 200 fun, action-filled classroom and field trip sessions. Sessions take place on Michigan State University campus and at various off-campus locations. Participants attend one or two sessions throughout their three-day stay. They are housed in three Michigan State University residence halls.

**Humane Society of Kent County Summer Camps** <http://www.hskc.org/>

3077 Wilson NW Grand Rapids, 49534

616/791-8066 Ask for Jennifer

Before and After Camp care is available for extra fee.

**Camp Kids and Paws** June 22-26; AM session for ages 5-7 and PM Session for Ages 8-10; Cost per child: \$70, Additional Siblings: \$10 off

**Animal Care Experience Camp** July 6-10 for ages 6-8 and August 3-7 for ages 9-11, AM and PM sessions; Cost per child: \$70 per week for a half day or \$120 per week for a full day, Additional Siblings: \$10 off.

**Critter Career Camp** July 13- July 17; AM session for 7-9 and PM session for 10-12; Cost \$70, Siblings: \$10 off

**Animal Academy** July 27-31; AM session for 10-12 and pm session for 13-15; Cost per child: \$85, Additional Siblings: \$10 off.

**Advanced Advocate Camp** August 10- 14; Ages 10-13 from 9am-5pm; Cost \$125, Additional Siblings: \$10 off.

**Kent District Library Summer Reading Programs** <http://www.kdl.org/>

616/784-2007 Starts June and ends in August. Also offer special events and programs throughout the year.

**Kent ISD Summer Opportunities 2009** 616/364-1333

[http://kentisd.org/teachers/Career\\_Development/Events/](http://kentisd.org/teachers/Career_Development/Events/)

Lists career focused camps and classes plus a variety of other summer fun and volunteer opportunities.

**Lifeline Ministries Camp** (Don't have a website yet)

616/866-9124 This camp for at-risk teens ages 11-17 includes mini-biking, sports, swimming, crafts, etc., and helps point youth to a new way of living.

**Lowell Community Kaleidoscope Summer 2009 Events, Activities& Classes** <http://www.discoverlowell.org> scroll down to Kaleidoscope near bottom of page on the left 616/897-9161

**Maranda Park Parties** <http://marandatv.com>

Park parties are on Thursdays from Noon - 2 p.m and can help families have fun and save money.

June 25 at Fifth Third Ballpark; July 2 at the Ionia County Fairgrounds; July 9 at Garfield Park; July 16 at Kollen Park; July 23 at Upjohn Park; July 30 at Allegan County Fairgrounds

**Michigan Athletic Club** <http://www.michiganathleticclub.com>

Grand Rapids, MI 49546

616/956-0944 Offer a variety of youth lessons and activities.

**East Hills** <http://www.michiganathleticclub.com/easthills/>

616/224-5400 Offer a variety of youth lessons and activities

**Orchard Hills Swim and Sports Club** <http://www.michiganathleticclub.com/orchardhills/>

616/224-8700 Mini camps, sports camps and swimming lessons.

**MVP Sportsplex** <http://www.mvpsportsclubs.com/mvpsportsplex/#>

4035 Burton Street SE, Grand Rapids, 49546

616/254-8800 Offering aquatics, basketball, tennis programs and more.

**National Military Family Association Operation Purple Camp**

[http://www.nmfa.org/site/PageServer?pagename=op\\_michigan](http://www.nmfa.org/site/PageServer?pagename=op_michigan)

800/260-0218 Summer camps for military families.

**NorthPointe Christian Schools 2009 Summer Enrichment Program**

[http://www.npchristian.org/Summer/enrichment\\_classes.htm](http://www.npchristian.org/Summer/enrichment_classes.htm)

3101 Leonard NE, GR, MI, 49525

616/363-4869 July 20 - 24 and August 3 - 7 for ages 6-14 yrs. Our summer enrichment classes are designed to stimulate curiosity and creativity, develop talents and encourage exploration and personal growth.



**Ottawa Hills High School Cheerleaders Youth Cheerleading Clinic**

Ottawa Hills High School Gymnasium 2055 Rosewood Ave SE

Saturday, August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009 8:00Am - 4:00PM, For Preschool – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade, Cost is \$25 per person. Lunch will be provided. Call Coach Toya at 485-0520 or Tamara 862-7354 with questions.

**Oxford Learning Summer Program** <http://www.oxfordlearning.com/locations/michigan/grandrapids/>

Currently looking for a new location for summer

616/890-9401 This summer Oxford is offering brain camps that will cover reading, writing and math for ages 6-10. Act Focus is a 3 day ACT prep course that includes homework and practice tests. Splash into Spanish uses thematic lessons, games and songs to teach Spanish, (ages 4-12). Individualized programs are offered for High School Prep and other tutoring needs.

**Planned Parenthood of West and Northern Michigan Peer Education Program**

<http://www.ppwnm.org/peereducation.php>

616/774-7005 Ask for Poppy. After-school or summertime training for ages 14-17 on all teen concerns. Trained teens educate peers, and speak to parents. Program is full, call now to get on the waiting list for next year's program.

**Recreational Safety Programs**

**Grand Rapids Power Squadron Boat Smart Classes** <http://grsps.org/Classes/index.html>

616/752-8121

**Kent County Sheriff's Department**

[http://www.accesskent.com/CourtsAndLawEnforcement/SheriffsDepartment/sheriff\\_safety\\_classes.htm](http://www.accesskent.com/CourtsAndLawEnforcement/SheriffsDepartment/sheriff_safety_classes.htm)

616/632-6200 Snowmobile Safety Classes, Hunters Safety Classes, ORV classes, and Boater Safety Classes.

**Royal Martial Arts Center** <http://www.rmacus.net>

2030 Lake Michigan Drive NW Grand Rapids 49504

Call 616/301-6672 for information about summer instruction. Also offers SAFE program seminars; Self Defense and Awareness for Anyone ages 9 and up.

**Junior Golf Camps**

Contact golf courses in your area to see if they are offering any classes and/or lessons for youth.

**St. Mark Lutheran Summer Preschool Camp** <http://smls.net>

1934 52<sup>nd</sup> St. SE 616/281-7892 Summer Preschool Camp runs May 18-21 and May 26 - 29.

**National Military Family Association Operation Purple Camp**

[http://www.nmfa.org/site/PageServer?pagename=op\\_michigan](http://www.nmfa.org/site/PageServer?pagename=op_michigan)

800/260-0218 Summer camps for military families.

**Summer Nature Series at West Michigan Academy of Environmental Science**

<http://www.wma-es.com/SummerPrograms.htm>

616/791-7454 Offering Green Thumb Fun Club; Amazing Animal Camp; Survival Camp; Biking Around West MI; Nature's Way Preschool; Rogue River Canoe Trip Overnight Camp; and Rivers, Streams, and the Big Lake

**The Courthouse Athletic Center in Byron Center** <http://www.thecourthouseac.com/>

616/878-7600 Call or visit website to learn about the many summer programs offered.

**The Richard and Helen DeVos Center for Arts and Worship Summer Camps**

<http://www.dcaw.org/events.php?eid=89> 616/574-5600

Date: July 6-20 (Circus Camp); July 13-17 (Magic Camp); and July 27-31 (Theatre Camp). For Students in grades 4 through 12. Tickets: \$125.00 - \$250.00

**United Way's 2-1-1** <http://www.refersoftware.com/hwmi/>

Dial 2-1-1 (cell phone users dial 616/459-2255) to get or give help. This is a free information and referral service available 24 hours a day that can provide information about summer activities, after school programs, volunteer opportunities and other local community services.

**Van Andel Education Institute** <http://www.vai.org/education/academy.aspx>  
616/234-5528

Van Andel Education Institute's (VAEI) Science Academy is a nonprofit academic institution that offers educational programs for elementary and middle school students and teachers, as well as local community members. Visit the website for more information.

**West Catholic Sports Camps** <http://www.grwestcatholic.org/GRCS/WCHS/Athletics/> click Summer Sports Camp  
1801 Bristol Avenue, Grand Rapids 49504  
616/233-5912

**West Michigan Fencing Camps** <http://www.wmfa.org>  
616/245-5104

This Beginning camp is designed for individuals with no fencing experience. Come and learn this exciting Olympic sport! Register early as space is limited to 18 students per session. All equipment is provided.

**June 22- 25**, M- Th, 10:00 am - noon @ Duncan Lake Middle School in Caledonia, ages 7 - 17, Cost is \$65. Call 891-8117 to register for this camp. 1:00 - 3:00 pm @ WMFA, 1111 Godfrey SW in GR, ages 7 - 17, Cost is \$60. Call 456-3676 to register for this Camp.

**August 24 - 27**, M - Th, 10:00 am - noon @ Duncan Lake Middle School in Caledonia, ages 7 - 17, Cost is \$65. Call 891-8117 to register for this camp. 1:00 - 3:00 pm @ WMFA, 1111 Godfrey SW in GR, ages 7 - 17, Cost is \$60. Call 456-3676 to register for this Camp

**YWCA West Central Michigan Girls Incorporated Summer Program®**

<http://www.ywcawcmi.org/girlsincorporated-programs.php>

June 2009 - August 2009 (two-week camps) Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Enjoy, explore and make great friends, take field trips to movies, art museums, or cultural sites, hands-on practice with research in the science room, and opportunities to meet women doing interesting jobs. Space is limited. For more information, call Danielle at 616.459.7062 ext. 302, Kristen at ext 249, or Trinity (Program Director) at 616/459-7062 x 160.

## **Camps for youth with disabilities**

You might want to contact local organizations (i.e.; Down's Syndrome Association, American Heart Association, Easter Seals, etc) that serve conditions since they may know of camps and programs related to the condition.

**Children with Special Needs Fund** <http://mi.gov/csnfund>

517/241-7420 Children with special needs may be eligible to apply for a Camp Scholarship. Apply early.

**NICHCY** Summer Camps for Children with Disabilities:

<http://www.nichcy.org/InformationResources/Documents/NICHCY%20PUBS/camps.pdf>

1800/695-0285 Summer Camps for Children with Disabilities is a guide to directories, articles and listings of summer camps for children with disabilities.

**Recreation Connection** <http://www.maryfreebed.com/>  
616/242-0352

**Adventure Learning Center at Eagle Village** <http://www.eaglevillage.org/>  
Hersey, Mi (Osceola County) 231/832-7262

**Autism Asperger Associates of Michigan** <http://www.autism-asperger-associates.com>

616/874-2090 Day camps and summer classes with emphasis on social skills and community experiences.

**Camp Anna Behrens for Girls in Greenville** <http://www.gsmt.org/behrens.html>

616/784-3341 Jen ext. 123 Accommodate campers with a variety of disabilities ages 6 – 17 years.

**Camp Michi-Mac near Jackson Michigan** <http://www.aafamich.org/CampMichiMac.html>  
866/MICHI-MAC (866/642-4462) This camp is for children with asthma entering 3<sup>rd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade. July 19 – 25, 2009.

**Camp Tall Turf** <http://www.tallturf.org>  
616/459-7206 A coed asthma camp with Doctors and nurses at camp all session to accommodate asthmatic campers August 3 – 8, 2009.

**Camp Tuhsmehta in Greenville** <http://www.campt.org/>  
616/754-5410 This camp is for the blind and visually impaired.

**Comprehensive Therapy Center Summer Therapy and Fun 2009** <http://www.therapycenter.org>  
2505 Ardmore SE, Grand Rapids 49506  
616/559-1054 Serves toddler to middle school. Many summer therapies offered along with lots of singing, games, arts, crafts, and drama June 23 – August 6, Tuesday, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9am-12pm.

**Conductive Learning Center Summer Camps Programs** <http://www.aquinas.edu/clc/summer.html>  
616/575-0575 Camps and programs for infants through teens that have motor related disabilities caused by cerebral palsy and spina bifida.

**Easter Seals Summer Camps and Programs** <http://www.essmichigan.org> click Services then Children's Therapy  
616/942-2081 Call for summer information and eligibility. They service children 2 ½ to 9 years.

**Grand Rapids Wheelchair Sports Association** <http://www.grwsa.com/>  
235 Wealthy St, SE Grand Rapids, 49503  
616/242-0351 Provide and promote recreational and competitive sporting opportunities for those individuals with physical disabilities. Programs offered include: wheelchair basketball for kids and adults, wheelchair tennis for kids and adults, free 5 day sports camp for kids ages 7-18 years old and many other opportunities.  
**2009 - Junior Wheelchair Sports Camp** for campers ages 7-18 years old with physical disabilities to be held at GVSU from Aug 3 - 7 FREE 5 day sports camp. \$150 for overnight accommodations for those meeting the traveling distance qualifications.  
**2009- Wheelchair Tennis tournament** is July 24-26 at Orchard Hills approximately 70-80 wheelchair athletes competing for \$9,000 in prize money sponsored by Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation Hospital coming from all over the country to participate in this 3 day tournament.  
**Kids Wheelchair Tennis Program** June 8-Aug. 17, 6-8pm at Orchard Hills.  
**Water-ski Clinic** Contact: Christy at 616/242-0380 July 10 and July 31 at Reeds Lake.  
**Junior Wheelchair Basketball** 616/242-0352 September 2009- March 2010  
**Wheelchair Racing** 616/242-0351  
**Hand Cycling** 616/242-0351

**Horizons Developmental Remediation Center** in Caledonia <http://www.horizonsdrc.com/> Click "Summer Programs" 616/698-0306 Serve children with autism and related impairments.

**Indian Trails Camp Inc. in Grand Rapids** <http://www.indiantrailscamp.org>  
0-1859 Lake Mi Dr, Grand Rapids 49534  
616/677-5251 Day and overnight camp for those with disabilities and autism ages 5yrs - adult. Special events like "Trick or Treat Street" and "Holiday Camp" offered in October and December and offer a year-round respite program.

**Kentwood Parks & Recreation Department** Inclusive Programs  
<http://www.ci.kentwood.mi.us/recreation/inclusiveprograms.asp>  
Contact Valerie 616/656-5275

**Lake Michigan Academy Summer Program 2009 in Grand Rapids** <http://www.wmldf.org>  
616/464-3330 The summer program is designed to help children with learning differences succeed. Focus is on math, reading and writing instruction for children with a specific learning disability or ADD/ADHD. June 29 – July 30, Monday thru Thursday with 2 sessions: 8:30am – 11:30am or 12- 3:00pm. Cost is \$350 per session or \$700 for both. Family discounts available and offer some options for high school students.

**Pine Ridge Bible Camp in Cedar Springs** <http://www.pineridgecamp.com>

616/696-8675 A camp for mentally impaired children, teens and adults June 10-13 & June 29-July 2, 2009.

**Rising Star Camp for Students with Learning Disabilities** <http://www.risingstar.locallight.com>

616/331-6659

**Special Olympics** <http://www.somi.org/area11> <http://www.somi.org/area11>>

1239 76th Street Suite E

Byron Center, MI 49315

616-583-1202

May 2 - Southwest Regional Spring Games - Calvin College

May 12 - Area 11 Spring Games - Northview High School

May 16 - Area 11 Bowling Tournament - Park Center Lanes

May 28-30 - State Summer Games - Central Michigan University

June 27 - Area 11 Golf Tournament - TBA

July 17-18 - State Summer Sports Classic - Canton Pine View & Softball Center, Ypsilanti July 25 - Southwest Regional Softball Tournament - Kalamazoo

September 26 - Southwest Regional Soccer Tournament - Caledonia

September 28 - Area 11 Cycling Competition - TBA

**Turning Pages – The Grand Rapids Reading Institute** <http://www.turningpages.org> or

3140 Three Mile Rd. NE, Grand Rapids 49525,

616/243-7323 Summer lessons for children having trouble with reading. Scholarships based on income and family size.

**Vanderbilt Children's Hospital** <http://www.vanderbiltchildrens.com/interior.php?mid=1007>

A summer camp directory of summer programs for children with chronic illnesses and disabilities.

**Wah Wah Tay See** <http://www.eightcap.org/> Under the Community Services tab click Camp Wah Wah Tay See

616/754-9315 Located in Greenville. Camp is for children 5 yrs and up who receive special education services.



## **Parks and Recreation and Indoor/Outdoor Pools**

Call or visit website for information about fees, schedules and lessons, sports camps, and other offerings.

**Big Rapids Community Pool** - Pool is open June-

August 231/796-7798

[http://www.ci.big-](http://www.ci.big-rapids.mi.us/Community_Pool_Welcome.aspx)

[rapids.mi.us/Community\\_Pool\\_Welcome.aspx](http://www.ci.big-rapids.mi.us/Community_Pool_Welcome.aspx)

**East Grand Rapids Pool** 616/940-4800 ext. 302

<http://www.eastgr.org/?t=90&c=56>

**East Grand Rapids Parks and Recreation**

**Department** 616/949-1750

<http://www.eastgr.org/?t=89&c=88>

**Kentwood Aquatics Center** 616/698-6700

[http://www.kentwoodps.org/community/kac/index](http://www.kentwoodps.org/community/kac/index.asp)

[.asp](http://www.kentwoodps.org/community/kac/index.asp)

**Kentwood Parks and Recreation Department**

616/656-5270

[http://www.ci.kentwood.mi.us/recreation/youthpro](http://www.ci.kentwood.mi.us/recreation/youthprograms.asp)

[grams.asp](http://www.ci.kentwood.mi.us/recreation/youthprograms.asp)

**Forest Hills Aquatic Center** 616/493-8950

<http://www.enjoylearning.com/AquaticCenter.html>

**Grand Rapids Community College Ford Pool**  
616/234-3505  
<http://www.grcc.edu/ShowPage.cfm?PageID=966>

**Grand Rapids Parks and Recreation** 616/456-4234  
<http://www.ci.grand-rapids.mi.us/parksandrec>

**Grand Valley State University** 616/331-3313  
<http://www.gvsu.edu/fieldhouse>

**Grandville** 616/254-6550  
<http://www.grandville.k12.mi.us/?i=communityeducation>

**Greenville Parks and Recreation Department**  
616/754-8887  
<http://www.ci.greenville.mi.us/> click "Recreation Department" on left

**Holland** 616/355-1130  
<http://www.cityofholland.com/Brix?pageID=54>

**Holland Community Aquatic Center**  
616/393-7595  
<http://www.hollandaquaticcenter.org>

**Michigan Athletic Club**  
<http://www.michiganathleticclub.com/>

**The MAC** 616/956-0944  
**East Hills Swim and Sports Club** 616/224-5400  
**Orchard Hills** 616/224-8700

**Montcalm Community College**  
<http://www.montcalm.edu/recreation/pool.htm>  
989/328-2111 or 877/328-2111

**MVP Sportsplex** 616/254-8800  
<http://www.mvpsportsplex.com>

**Northwest Ottawa Recreation Program** 616/850-5125  
<http://www.ghaps.org/norp/>

**Ottawa Programs and Activities** 616/738-4810  
<http://www.co.ottawa.mi.us/ParksVI/Parks/programs.htm>

**YMCA'S** 616/855-9600  
<http://www.grymca.org>

**Walker Parks and Recreation** 616/791-6890  
<http://www.ci.walker.mi.us/Departments/ParksAndRec/DepartmentOverview.htm>

**Wyoming Parks and Recreation** 616/530-3164  
<http://www.ci.wyoming.mi.us/ParksRec/parks-recreation.asp>

### **Family Excursions and Day Trip Destinations**

Use this list to plan day trips and other excursions with your family. Also, your local library will have many Michigan Travel resources you can use to help plan all your Michigan Summer Travels!

• **Grand Rapids/Kent Visitor Info Center Events Calendar Search**

<http://www.visitgrandrapids.org/events.php>  
Check the "children's activity" box for a list of child and family related events.

• **Michigan Events/Attractions/Tourism Information**

**Michigan festivals and events**  
<http://www.michiganfun.us/findevents.cfm>

**West Michigan Tourist Association**  
<http://www.wmta.org>

**Pure Michigan** Travel and Tourism Site  
<http://www.michigan.org/> Free Travel Guide.

**Michigan State Parks, Recreation Areas or State Forest Campgrounds**  
<http://www.michigandnr.com/parksandtrails/>

• **Air Zoo in Kalamazoo** <http://www.airzoo.org/>  
866/524-7966 (toll-free) or 269/382-6555

• **Binder Park Zoo in Battle Creek**

<http://www.binderparkzoo.org>  
269/979-1351 Opening Day April 22, 2009

• **Coopersville/Marne Railway**

<http://www.coopersvilleandmarne.org/>  
**Coopersville Farm Museum**  
<http://www.coopersville.com/museums.htm>

• **Flick's Family Film Festival** 616/447-4253

<http://celebrationcinema.com/?pid=105&id=1330>

• **Free Summer Matinees at Regent Theatre in Allegan** 269/673-2737

<http://www.cityofallegan.org/regent.php>

• **Fruit Ridge Country Market Guide 2008**

<http://www.fruitridgemarket.com/>  
A roadmap to explore farm markets, greenhouses, historical sites and attractions on the "Ridge" northwest of Grand Rapids.

- **Gerald R. Ford Museum**

<http://www.fordlibrarymuseum.gov>

616/254-0400 A Child in the White House - Caroline Kennedy's Dolls June 19 through August 31, 2009 More than 70 dolls and puppets from 30 countries are in the collection.

- **Kent County Parks**

<http://www.accesskent.com/CultureLeisureAndTranisit/KidsCorner/> Click Park Directory  
616/336-3697

- **Love in the Name Of Christ**

<http://www.loveinthenameofchrist.org>  
616/662-3300

Posts a list of Vacation Bible Schools and free and low-cost events for children & families.

- **2009 Lowell Showboat Sizzlin' Summer Concerts**

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

616/897-9161 Concerts are Thursday Nights Beginning June through August. Free admission and parking. Concert venue is wheelchair accessible and handicap/senior parking is available.

- **Michigan Maritime Museum in South Haven**

<http://www.michiganmaritimemuseum.org>  
800/747-3810

- **Michigan U-Pick Farms & Farmers' Markets**

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

Search by Product, County or Region to find u-pick farms & farmers' markets in Michigan. Download the entire directory from the website.

- **Millennium Park** <http://www.millennium-park.org>

616/336-3697 This park located on the northwest side of Grand Rapids features a beach house, picnic area playgrounds, fishing ponds, and sprinkler park.

### **State of Michigan Programs**

#### **2009 Free Fishing Weekend**

<https://www.michigan.gov/dnr>

June 13th and June 14th

#### **Park & Read Program Offers Free Park Passes**

<http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,1607,7-153-10365-215611--,00.html>

#### **Michigan State Parks and Gander Mountain Kick-Off a "First Time Camper" Program**

<http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,1607,7-153-10365-213567--,00.html>

- **Pierce Cedar Creek Institute (near Hastings)**

<http://www.cedarcreekinstitute.org>

269/721-4190 Pierce Cedar Creek Institute offers summer hikes and family programs to learn from and experience nature.

- **Visitors' Night at James C. Veen Observatory**

<http://www.graaa.org>

616/897-7065 Public Nights schedule available at website. Tours of the facilities and observations through the telescopes are provided. Admission for visitors' nights: \$3 for adults; \$2 for 17 years and younger; free for those under 5 years.