

Culver City Unified School District wishes you a wonderful Summer Break! Below you'll find a list of either free or inexpensive activities to do on vacation. Enjoy!

FREE AND FUN!

Go on a Grunion Run! There really are fish that jump out of the ocean at midnight and slither up the beach when the moon is full. The Cabrillo Marine Aquarium in San Pedro has been hosting grunion runs with a front row seat for this peculiar phenomenon since 1964. 3720 Stephen M White Dr, San Pedro, CA 90731

Free Kayaking: Take a free class with Kayaks 4 Kidz, located at Mother's Beach in Marina Del Rey, CA. This Youth Water Sports Camp is offered as a community service to boys and girls ages 8 to 18 and their families from June through September. If you would like to register for one of our Summer 2016 classes, please call 661-718-0173 or email:kayaks4kidz@gmail.com.

Outdoor Concerts: Summer always means free outdoor concerts at a host of local parks, museums, and public spaces. Throw down a blanket, spread out the snacks, and watch the kids boogie under the evening stars as you sway to some cool and breezy melodies. A great local option includes Santa Monica Pier's concert series; families can revel in sea breezes, gaze at the moonlight on the Pacific Ocean, and listen to the sounds of the 31st annual Pier Twilight Concert Series. Families are welcome to set up a blanket and picnic on the Pier itself (which gets pretty crowded), or down below on the sand. Parking at 1550 Pacific Coast Highway Lot is first come, first served; ages 3 and up! July 9 Morris Day & The Time (Rhythm &Blues); July 16 Real Estate (Indie Rock); July 23 Cubanismo (Classic LatinRock); July 30 JD McPherson (Americana); August 6 Australia Rocks the Pier (Australian Alt Rock); August 13 Sister Nancy (Reggae/ Dancehall); August 20 Ariel Pink (Indie Rock); August 27 Jefferson Starship (Classic Rock); September 3 Rebirth Brass Band (New Orleans Brass)

Free Summer Movies! There are several outdoor, friendly movies near our region this summer. Local options include: Marina del Rey Free Movie Nights Burton Chace Park, (Marina del Rey) July 18, August 1, 15 & 29, 2015 select Saturdays at 8pm; Free, outdoors, Family-friendly films; Summertime Cinema (Westfield Culver City) July 10 - August 7, 2015, Fridays at sundown, Free, outdoors playing G, PG, PG-13 films; Sunday Movie Nights (Beverly Canons Garden, Beverly Hills, June 7 - August 9, 2015 select Sundays at 8pm, Free, outdoors, Films range from PG to PG-13 ratings; Movies on the Boardwalk (Redondo Beach Pier), Fridays in June 2015, films begin at dusk, Free, outdoors, Films rated PG & PG-13; Brentwood Country Mart Movie Night (Brentwood Country Mart) June 22 - August 24, 2015 Mondays at 6pm, Free, outdoors, Family-friendly films; Cinema on the Street (Third Street Promenade, Santa Monica) July 17, 2015, Friday at 8pm, Free, outdoors; This year Cinema on the Street has only one screening scheduled, Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory. Cinema Under the Stars: Red Carpet Series (Westwood Village), July 20 and August 10, 2015, 7pm, Free, outdoors, Family-friendly films.

Visit a Splash Pad! There are many free splash pads and water activities for kids in our area, including: Stoner Park – West LA, 1835 Stoner Avenue, June 6 - September 7, 2015. A gradual entry the length of the pool makes it feel more like a shore than a pool, and the giant sprinkling mushroom, walls of water, and other spraying features in the shallows are non-stop fun. There is a formidable waterslide, too, for kids old enough to indulge (48" and 7 years old). Check before heading out. Kids are free; adults pay \$2.50 (or \$2 with an LA library card). Aidan's Place – West LA -1350 Sepulveda Boulevard, All year. The water feature here is a series of misters connected to the play equipment, unique in that it is fully accessible for kids with disabilities.

Free. Virginia Avenue Park – Santa Monica -2200 Virginia Avenue, May - September. Usually in action from Memorial Day (at the latest) to Labor Day (at the earliest), this splash patio splashes up, across, and around in all sorts of ways, alternating between features to keep things lively.

Free. Annenberg Beach House – Santa Monica -415 Pacific Coast Highway, All year. The patio does have several tables and chairs that make it a good spot for a picnic lunch.

Tongva Park – Santa Monica -1615 Ocean Avenue, May-September. The beach city's newest park is fast becoming one of its most popular. The splash/spray pad is part of the small but well designed play area, with padded ground, some shade, and tables. And all an easy walk from the Pier and the Promenade.

Free. Coldwater Canyon Park – Beverly Hills - 1100 North Beverly Drive, All year. Across from the fire station where Beverly Drive merges with Coldwater. The water feature here is a little man-made creek for kids to paddle and splash in – gentle and low-key, but very popular on a summer day. Free.

Sled in the Sand! The most well-known slopes for beach sledding are the Venice Beach sand berms, which are already piled up at the end of Venice Boulevard, near the lifeguard station. The ideal sled type for use on the sand is the cheapest, smoothest saucer you can find - a solid boogie board with a smooth plastic bottom can do the trick. Similar sand berms are erected seasonally in Marina del Rey, in Playa del Rey, and at the south end of Dockweiler State Beach.

Ride a bike! Some bike paths include: Ballona Creek Bike Path. This nearly 8 mile stretch begins at Syd Kronenthal Park and meanders through Culver City to eventually join the bike path in Playa del Rey. Lots of dips and turns, and ample views of the creek and its burgeoning wildlife. Not lit at night, this path is best enjoyed during the day. For a shorter ride to the coast, roll on at McConnell Ave and head west. The Strand - LA Beach Bike Path is a 27-mile bike path stretches along the beach from Pacific Palisades to Palos Verdes, offering a seemingly endless, flat, well-maintained surface to cruise. Santa Monica, Venice, and Marina del Rey are all areas at which to hop on and hop off. Playa del Rey: Drive west on Culver Blvd. until it meets the beach at Pacific Ave. There's plenty of free parking here, and a foot lane to the bike path. Hop on your bikes and head south, and you'll be on your way to Manhattan Beach and beyond.

Participate in a Beach Cleanup! If you want to help protect the ocean you love from pollution, Heal the Bay can help. From volunteering with your friends and family at one of their monthly beach cleanups, choosing your favorite beach for a year of cleanups, to helping orchestrate an event yourself, there are many ways you can protect what you love. Dates and locations include June 18: Venice Beach Pier, from 10-12pm, Venice Beach Pier, 3100 Ocean Front Walk @ Washington Blvd. South side of Pier, Tower Buccaneer, Venice, CA 90292. July 16: Playa del Rey, 10-12pm, Toes Beach, 6200 Pacific Ave, Lifeguard Tower 41, Playa del Rey, CA 90293.

Watch Shakespeare: See Culver City's Shakespeare for Kids in the park! Repeating every week — Sundays, and Saturdays from 11:00am to 12:00pm. Every Saturday and Sunday in August, the Actors Gang presents free family-friendly Shakespeare in Media Park. You can always count on The Gang to make the story accessible to the very young, and yet packed with enough wit to entertain adults as well. Oh, and there's a free popsicle party after every show. Free parking is available in the city lot next to Trader Joe's. Bring blankets or chairs.

Apple Film-Making! At Apple Camp, kids ages 8-12 learn how to shoot their own footage, create an original song in GarageBand on an iPad, and put it all together in iMovie on a Mac. This free workshop, held at your local Apple Store, spans three days and ends with campers debuting their masterpieces at the Apple Camp Film Festival. Visit <https://www.apple.com/retail/camp/notify.html> to register.

Dance Downtown! Swing, samba, or just plain jump at a Friday evening ! Fri Jun 3, 2016 - Fri Sep 2, 2016, Also on July 8, 2016; July 22, 2016; August 5, 2016; August 19, 2016; September 2, 2016, 7:00pm to 11:00pm. Families can swing, strut and shimmy at free biweekly evenings featuring an open dance floor with beginner dance lessons by top LA dance instructors alongside a live band or DJ, From beginners to experienced hoofers, everyone is welcome. No experience necessary, all levels and ages are welcome. First come, first served. Parking is \$9 before 8pm and \$5 after 8pm in The Music Center parking lot located directly under The Music Center Plaza. Access from Grand Ave. Tables & chairs are available for use, please do not bring any lawn furniture or picnic blankets. June 3, 24, July 8, July 22, August 5, August 19, September 2.

Visit rescued Sea Lions and Learn: Visit the rescued sea lions at the Pacific Marine Mammal Center. The Pacific Marine Mammal Center rescues, rehabilitates and releases marine mammals and inspires ocean stewardship through research, education and collaboration. - See more at: <http://www.pacificmmc.org/#sthash.jLBExDxc.dpuf> 20612 Laguna Canyon Rd. Laguna Beach, CA 92651. Located near the Laguna Beach Animal Shelter and the dog park; (949) 494-3050.

Free Kids' Fishing Clinic: Head to Dana Point for a free kids' fishing clinic. Every Sunday the folks at Dana Wharf offer a free kids' fishing clinic, providing dockside experience for young anglers. Experts offer tips along with new fishing techniques, hook tying secrets, and raffle prizes. After the free clinic, kids can participate in a half-day fishing trip for free if they choose (including free rental gear), if they're accompanied by a paying adult. This offer is available on the 12:45pm trip, immediately following the free fishing workshop. Adults pay \$46, and the trip goes from 12:45pm-5:45pm. Any adult without a fishing permit also needs to pay the \$15 license fee.

Free Bowling! Sign the kids up to bowl for free all summer long! Kids Bowl Free, a fantastic nationwide program designed to give youth a constructive way to beat the heat can allow your kids to bowl free every day this summer. Everyone under a set age (usually 16 but decided upon by participating bowling centers) is eligible to sign up for the seasonal program, which offers two games of bowling FREE every day over the summer. (The optional purchase of a \$24.95 family pass gives up to four of us accompanying adults the same free game privileges.) To sign up, simply click on your alley of choice and fill out the online form. Local options include AMF Bay Shore Lanes, 234 Pico Blvd., Santa Monica, CA 90405, (310) 399-7731. AMF is known for its old school and well-kept bowling alleys. This one takes up prime real estate three blocks from the beach in Santa Monica; AMF Mar Vista Lanes, 12125 Venice Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90066, (310) 391-5288. Another traditional bowling experience that's a little cheaper than Santa Monica. A large, free parking lot is a bonus. AMF El Dorado Lanes, 8731 Lincoln Blvd., Westchester, CA 90045, (310) 670-3688. This is the biggest bowling alley on the Westside with 32 lanes in the AMF vein, and it has a decent diner attached. Lucky Strike Hollywood, 6801 Hollywood Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90028, (323) 467-7776. The Lucky Strike name is synonymous with trendy, modern bowling alleys. This one, at the Hollywood and Highland complex, started it all. Good food and artwork by local artists help raise the bar here.

Muscle Beach Traveling Rings: Swing on the Muscle Beach Traveling Rings! Traveling Rings are a special type of fitness equipment which normally have 5-10 aluminum rings suspended by chains, each of which is linked to a steel support or beam. One can "travel" from one ring to the next by a combination of arm pulls and leg swings. Although the traveling rings have existed since at least the 1860s, the Original Muscle Beach in Santa Monica, California popularized them in the 1970s. South of the Santa Monica Beach Pier.

Griffith Observatory, located in Griffith Park, has a free astronomy museum and offers visitors a free glimpse at the cosmos through their super Zeiss telescope.

Star Gazing: At TCL (formerly Grauman's) Chinese Theatre on Hollywood Boulevard to measure your hands and feet against the footprints and hand prints of Hollywood legends. Meander along the Hollywood Walk of Fame to find the stars of your favorite celebrities. The Walk of Fame runs east to west on Hollywood Boulevard from Gower Street to La Brea Avenue and North South on Vine street from Yucca Street to Sunset Boulevard. You may also take a look at the Hollywood Sign from the viewing area at the Hollywood & Highland shopping and entertainment complex next to Grauman's Chinese Theatre. Another good viewing point is looking up Gower Boulevard. The sign itself is fenced off from the public, so there is no legal access to it. Lastly, the Grammy Walk of Fame is a pavement exhibit, this one at L.A. Live in Downtown LA, commemorating the winners of the GRAMMY Awards.

La Brea Tar Pits in Hancock Park next to the LA County Museum of Art is the greatest source of prehistoric fossils ever excavated. Hancock Park is on Wilshire Blvd.

Mexican marketplace at the Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monumental Olvera Street. Explore on your own or join a free walking tour Wednesdays through Saturdays 10 a.m. to noon. A self-guided tour brochure describing the historic buildings is available at the Information Desk in the Plaza or at the El Pueblo Visitors Center. Entrance to LA Plaza Museum of Latino history at Olvera Street is also free.

The California Science Center in Exposition Park is fun for adults and kids. General Admission is free. There is a fee for parking. There is also a fee for the IMAX Theatre and special attractions. The Science Center is open 10 to 5 except holidays. Exposition Park is on the Expo Line of the LA Metro. Metro Bus 445.

Griffith Park: The Travel Town Train Museum in Griffith Park is a great place to take the kids. Some trains you can only look at, but other's you're free to climb around on.

Library: Downtown LA Central Library is worth a visit for its architecture, public art, gallery shows and public programs, but it's not the only interesting library around. West Hollywood Library also has some interesting art, including a molded wood ceiling installation and numerous murals by well-known artist. They also have a full calendar of family programming, including literary events, music, staged readings and theatrical performances.

Gardens: These gardens are always free: The Rose Garden at Exposition Park near Downtown LA, The California Science Center and California African American Museum at Exposition Park are also free. The James Irvine Japanese Garden at the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center (JACCC) in Little Tokyo is free to visit.

Farm Visit: Underwood Family Farms offers families a way to commune with nature and have fun while doing it. Admission is \$3 Monday-Friday and \$6 on weekends. The farm has an animal park, U-pick fruits/vegetables and other children's activities for extra cost. 3370 Sunset Valley Road, Moorpark. 805-529-3690. www.underwoodfamilyfarms.com

MUSEUMS

Cool off in a museum on its free admission day! Below are a list of museums and days/times when admission is free.

The Autry National Center: 4700 Western Heritage Way, Los Angeles 90027, 323.667.2000. Located in Griffith Park, directly across the street from the zoo, the Autry is free to the general public on the second Tuesday (10am-4pm) of every month. The collections focus on Native American and Western US history.

Craft and Folk Art Museum, 5814 Wilshire Blvd (at Curson), Los Angeles 90036, 323.937.4230. You never know what you might find at this smaller museum that hosts a wide variety of exhibitions. Admission is "pay what you want" on Sundays, from 11am to 5pm.

Japanese American National Museum, 369 E 1st Street, Los Angeles 90012, 213.625.0414. JANM is the largest museum in the US focusing on the experiences of Japanese Americans. It is free to the public on the third Thursday every month (12pm-8pm), and every Thursday from 5-8pm. In addition, the museum holds a number of free family festivals throughout the year. On those days, admission to the museum is free.

Kidspace Children's Museum, 480 North Arroyo Blvd, Pasadena 91103, 626.449.9144. Kidspace hosts a free family night on the first Tuesday of every month (except September) from 4-8pm.

Los Angeles County Museum of Art, 5905 Wilshire Blvd, Los Angeles 90036, 323.857.6000. The second Tuesday of each month is free for the general public. LA County residents can visit for free after 3pm Mondays through Fridays. If you sign your children up (for free!) with the NexGen program, each child gets free admission for themselves and one accompanying adult, any day of the year. LACMA free days do not include admission to special ticketed exhibits.

Museum of Contemporary Art, Grand Avenue, 250 S Grand Avenue, Los Angeles 90012, 213.626.6222; Geffen Contemporary, 152 N Central Ave, Los Angeles 90012, 213.626.6222. MOCA's Grand Avenue and Geffen Contemporary locations offer free admission to the public on Thursdays from 5-8pm. (The West Hollywood location, 8687 Melrose Ave, is always free.)

Museum of Latin American Art, 28 Alamitos Ave, Long Beach 90802, 562.437.1689. MOLAA has free family days every Sunday, 11am to 5pm. Some family days will also feature music, art workshops, storytelling, dance classes, or other activities. (In addition, admission is free from 5pm to 9pm on the fourth Friday of every month.)

Natural History Museum, 900 Exposition Blvd, Los Angeles 90007, 213.763.DINO. The NHM now offers 13 free Tuesdays (9:30am-5pm) each year—most are the first Tuesday. See here for the upcoming schedule.

Page Museum at the La Brea Tar Pits, 5801 Wilshire Blvd, Los Angeles 90036, 323.934.7243. The Page Museum offers free general admission on the first Tuesday of every month, with the exceptions of July and August. Remember, the grounds are always open, free of charge, and if your kids like the actual tar, they will love the grounds!

Pasadena Museum of California Art, 490 East Union St, Pasadena 91101, 626.568.3665. The Pasadena Museum offers free admission on first Fridays (12-5pm) and on third Thursday evenings from 5-8pm.

Skirball Cultural Center, 2701 N Sepulveda Blvd, Los Angeles 90049, 310.440.4500. All of the Skirball's exhibitions are free to the public on Thursdays (12pm-5pm). The campus grounds and Ruby Gallery are always free, as is parking, and no tickets are required to access the shops or

dining areas. Note that the Noah's Ark portion of the museum, while also free on Thursdays, requires a timed ticket to enter, and tickets usually book up in advance on Thursdays. Reserving in advance is strongly recommended.

The Children's Museum at La Habra, 301 South Euclid Street, La Habra 90631, 562.905.9793. On the first Saturday of every month, admission is free from 10am-5pm. To prevent overcrowding, the museum issues 250 wristbands for 3 different two-hour slots: 10am-12pm, 12:30pm-2pm, and 3pm-5pm.

Autry Museum of the American West: Kids will love the Imagination Gallery, which brings the Wild West to life! This exhibit explores the Western movie genre, and lets your little ones experience it firsthand. 4700 Western Heritage Way , Los Angeles , CA 90027

The Broad Museum: The Broad is L.A.'s newest contemporary art museum. There are many great pieces, including a chamber of lights which resembles space and visitors get to view it one at a time. 221 S. Grand Ave. , Los Angeles , CA 90012

Santa Monica History Museum: Visit to learn all about this city's interesting past. The permanent exhibit features a timeline, beginning at the earliest Native Americans. There are also awesome hands-on, interactive displays. 1350 7th St , Santa Monica , CA 90401

The Grammy Museum: Check out their current exhibits and education programs designed for students interested in the music industry. 800 W Olympic Blvd , Los Angeles , CA 90015

Polliwog Park: Polliwog Park is 18 acres, the largest park in the South Bay. The focal point of the park is a large pond, bordered by a natural wildlife refuge that's home to migratory birds and other wildlife. Redondo Ave. and Manhattan Beach Blvd. , Manhattan Beach , CA 90266

Hammer Museum: The Hammer Museum is located in the heart of Westwood Village. Every Sunday is Family Day! Starting at 11am the Hammer Museum has great programs for families. 10899 Wilshire Blvd, Los Angeles , CA 90024

The Annenberg Space for Photography: A space designed to showcase stunning digital and print photography. 2000 Avenue of the Stars , Los Angeles , CA 90067

The Getty Center: The Getty Center has plenty for kids to do. Once you park, you take a tram up the hill to the museum itself - this alone is a thrill for most kids! You can also walk around (the kids can run) the magnificent gardens the Getty has to offer. 1200 Getty Center Dr., Los Angeles , CA 90049

Griffith Park Travel Town Museum: Travel Town is absolutely a must for any train-loving kid! This museum is free and lets your little conductor see various types of locomotives, passenger trains, and wooden cargo train cars. 5200 Zoo Dr , Los Angeles , CA 90027

Zimmer Children's Museum: The museum features hands-on exhibits for children to explore in creative and inspiring settings. The Zimmer is also the only museum dedicated specifically to kids and families in Los Angeles. 6505 Wilshire Blvd. , Suite 100 , Los Angeles , CA 90048

Museum of Flying: The Museum of Flying has just under 20 aircraft, a high-tech flight simulator, cockpits to try out, and it's next door to the Santa Monica Airport, where prop planes and small jets take off and land right before your eyes! 3100 Airport Avenue , Santa Monica , CA 90405

Natural History Museum: A Spider Pavilion, Butterfly Pavilion, huge dinosaur skeletons, gems, and the dinosaur encounter live show. 900 Exposition Blvd. , Los Angeles , CA 90007

The Getty Villa is the permanent home of the J. Paul Getty Museum's Greek and Roman art collection. Located on Pacific Coast Highway north of Sunset Blvd. Advance, timed tickets are required. Metro Bus 434 stops near the Getty Villa Gate on PCH.

HIKING

Paramount Ranch: Paramount's old Western movie sets are still standing and your kids can run around the sets pretending to be cowboys and girls. Expansive lawns and lots of picnic tables make Paramount Ranch a perfect Sunday picnic spot. Agoura Hills 2903 Cornell Rd. CA 91301
Directions

King Gillette Ranch The brand-new visitor center has exhibits and the rangers on site are always friendly and full of information. Or you can park across the bridge for \$7. 818-878-0866. Business Hours:8:00am to Sunset. Calabasas 26800 Mulholland Hwy. CA 91302
Directions

Will Rogers State Park has a beautiful, easy hike to inspiration point. 310-454-8212. Pacific Palisades 1501 Will Rogers State Park Rd. CA 90272
Directions

Solstice Canyon is one of the most kid-friendly hiking trails in the Los Angeles area. Malibu 3998 Solstice Canyon Rd. CA 90265
Directions

Franklin Canyon Park is easily accessible but gives you the feel of being far from the city. 310-858-7272. Beverly Hills 2600 Franklin Canyon Dr. CA 90210
Directions

Kenneth Hahn is one of the best hidden gems in LA. If you don't want to fight traffic but crave being outdoors with plenty of space for your kids to run around, this is a perfect place for a quick getaway. Los Angeles 4100 South La Cienega Blvd. CA 90056
Directions

BEACHES

Topanga Beach is a rocky beach in Pacific Palisades, Los Angeles, CA, north of Santa Monica. The beach is split into east/south and west/north, divided by Topanga Creek, which empties into the Pacific Ocean here. Will Rogers Beach, also known as Will Rogers State Beach, in Pacific Palisades, Los Angeles stretches 1.75 miles from Topanga Beach at the northwestern end to Santa Monica Beach in the south.

Santa Monica Beach is operated by the City of Santa Monica. It begins where Will Rogers State Beach ends at the Rustic Creek Channel near where Channel Rd and Chautauqua Blvd run into Pacific Coast Highway (PCH) and ends at Venice Beach in the south. It is one of the most popular beaches for locals and tourists due to attractions on the Santa Monica Pier.

Venice Beach in Los Angeles, CA is most known for it's colorful boardwalk with psychedelic artwork, cheap sunglasses and T-shirt vendors, street performers and random eccentric locals and travelers.

Dockweiler State Beach is a 3.7 mile stretch of beach from Ballona Creek at Marina del Rey in the north to El Segundo Beach in the south. El Segundo Beach is a brief strip of less than a mile of beach in the City of El Segundo between Dockweiler Beach and El Porto Beach.