Written by Ashley Pearlstein

Summer is right around the corner and it can be difficult to find something to entertain the kids during their break. Check out these local summer classes and camps that are fun and educational for children!



Broadway Camp

The Broadway Camp is the perfect choice for your little actor! The camp provides young aspiring actors and actresses with a working, interactive experience in performing. Kids will be able to perform in an actual Broadway musical. Kid Cast (ages 7-12) runs from June 17-28 from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The Teen Cast (ages 13-19) runs from June 3-14 from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Performances for parents and family will be held at the end of the sessions. The camp costs \$300 per two-week session.

www.broadway-camp.com.



Rocks and Ropes

Rocks and Ropes, a rock climbing facility, has been hosting summer camps for children since 1992. From experienced young climbers to complete beginners, camp is for everyone! The Rock 1 Camp is for ages 5-7 and teaches youth responsibility and cooperation. Rock 2 Camp is for ages 8-10 and starts at the beginning for new climbers. This package includes one day of rock climbing on Mount Lemmon. Rock 3 Camp is for ages 11-15 and teaches advanced techniques. This package includes two days of outdoor climbing. Camps run as 5-day sessions and multiple sessions are encouraged. Prices vary.

www.rocksandropes.com.



Camp Invention

If acting and climbing doesn't intrigue your child, try Camp Invention! The weeklong summer enrichment program is for children entering grades 1-6. The camp is from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and includes a variety of hands-on activities like investigating small appliances, being crash-landed astronauts on a new planet, exploring Newton's laws of motion, high-energy activities in the gymnasium, and more. The camp is based on science, technology, engineering, and math in order to inspire invention and innovation. Prices vary by program and location. www.invent.org.



Children's Museum Tucson

The Children's Museum offers a variety of summer camps for all ages. Each camp varies in price. Each camp is one week long, and children are welcome to experience multiple camps. Ages 4-6 can enjoy camps like Buggin' Out which concentrates on bug activities, bug art, and bug science, or The Very Hungry Dinosaur which is a week of dinosaur based projects. Junior camps for slightly older children include Culinary Kids where children will cook things like pizza, wontons, burritos, and more, and Pet Vet: Caring or Furry 7 Four Legged Friends put on by The Humane Society of Southern Arizona.

www.childrensmuseumtucson.org.



DeMont Family Swim School

The DeMont Family Swim School provides a variety of private and group summer swim lessons for all ages and levels. This is a great opportunity for children to learn to swim, or advance in their swimming techniques. Teachers provide great care and education to babies as young as one month. Give your child an easy, fun way to cool off this summer in the gold-medal indoor facility. www.demontswim.com.

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Harkins Theatres Summer Movie Fun

The Harkins Summer Movie Fun program for kids is back at Tucson Spectrum! Children can enjoy a movie a week for 10 weeks for just \$5! Movies include Mirror Mirror, Madagascar 3, Dr. Seuss' The Lorax, Ice Age 4, and many more. Movies are shown at 9:45 a.m. Give your child the gift of the movies this summer and enjoy 10 family favorites. www.harkinstheatres.com/smf.



Pima County Libraries

The Pima County Libraries offer a variety of summer camps for children at each location. From Lego Club, to Mommy and Me Tai Chi, to special reading programs for children of all ages, the possibilities at local libraries are endless. Check your local library for a list of programs and prices. www.library.pima.gov.