

Arizona's Best Kid's Summer Camps

Written by Katherine Chamberlain

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School is almost out for summer, so be sure to register your kids for summer camp while there is still space! Summer camp, whether its sleep-over or day-camp provides children with hours of fun and a lifetime of memories—and gives parents a little time to themselves too. Check out *Arizona Foothills Magazine's* picks for Arizona's best kid's summer camps.

Arizona Museum for Youth



Arizona Museum for Youth (AMY) has something for everyone, from toddlers to teens. Summer programs include The Art of Color!, Bountiful Beads, My Favorite Monster Sculptures, Parent/Tot Music Time, Pre-School Summer Camp, Honoring Boxes & Warrior Figures, Winter In July, Folk Art Badge for Girl Scouts & Kid's Night Out Monster Movie Nights! At AMY kids can learn about the techniques, processes, and materials used to create art while discovering more about themselves and their world through self-expression, hands-on learning and participant-centered programs.

Arizona Museum for Youth

35 N. Robson , Mesa

480.644.2467

<http://www.arizonamuseumforyouth.com>

Adventures in Space Summer Camp



Adventures in Space Summer Camp is the cool place to be when it's hot outside! The camp offers elementary and middle school students a chance to learn how astronauts live and work in space, launch rockets and explore adventures related to the history of flight at a series of full-day or half-day camps put on by the Challenger Space Center. From the depth of the oceans to the ice regions of the solar system, this summer Challenger Space Center young explorers will celebrate the International Year of Astronomy and the 400th anniversary of Galileo's use of the telescope to explore the skies!

Challenger Space Center

21170 N 83rd Ave, Peoria

623.322.2001

<http://www.azchallenger.org>

Camp Science at Arizona Science Center



Forget writing your name in your underwear and bunking down with mosquitoes! This summer, kids ages 6-11 need travel no further than Camp Science at Arizona Science Center. Each day, campers will explore a different area of science (Chemistry Cabin, Biology Bunk, Physics Field, Geology Back Packs and Planetarium Playground) and still be home in time for supper. Science is fun for everyone at Camp Science!

Arizona Science Center

600 E. Washington, Phoenix

602.716.2028

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

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Camp Zoo at the Phoenix Zoo



Gear up for this wild experience! Children will have fascinating adventures with the natural world this summer at Camp Zoo! Each age-appropriate, week-long session is filled with up-close animal encounters, hands-on activities, games, in-depth investigations, and organized free time. Camp Zoo at the Phoenix Zoo is for students who are entering Kindergarten through eighth grade in the fall of 2009. All lessons and activities are age-appropriate and designed for multiple learning styles. Young children will be introduced to nature with smaller animals, basic care giving, art projects and very simple action projects. Each class progresses with the children's level of understanding all the way up to seventh and eighth grade, during which participants will explore animal training and visitor education.

Phoenix Zoo, 455 North Galvin Parkway, Phoenix
602-273-7078

<http://www.phoenixzoo.org>

Herberger College for Kids



Herberger College for Kids has made summer camp easy and flexible. Sign up each child for as many half-day or two-week sessions as you like. Enroll in morning camps, afternoon camps – or both – for one or multiple sessions. Choose from Art, Dance, Music and Theatre to mix and match disciplines for a thoroughly entertaining arts experience. Your children will have so much fun that they won't realize they are actually learning!

Herberger College of the Arts Community School
480.727.0700

<http://communityschool.asu.edu>

Hubbard Summer Sports Camps



Summer Sports Camp is a fun-filled, friendship-building and active way to enjoy the summer. At Hubbard campers are introduced to athletic skills which can lay the groundwork for a lifetime of physical fitness. Sports include volleyball, basketball, soccer, archery, swimming, field sports (kick ball, capture the flag and other camp favorites). Hubbard focuses on team building, the values of sportsmanship and helps build positive self-esteem. Campers of all athletic levels ages 5-13 are welcome and any of the multiple valley locations.

602.971.4044

<http://www.hubbardsports.com>

ASU Sun Devils Camps



While many ASU students leave campus for the summer, other groups of young learners take advantage of the university's learning environment in June and July. Kids, teens and adults can keep busy this summer by participating in one of ASU's fun and challenging programs and camps. With a wide variety of programs to choose from such as robotics, engineering, creative writing, performing arts, college prep and

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studying abroad, everyone is sure to find something that interests them. Learn about broadcast and print journalism, create a video game, or explore a career in teaching. And for the athlete in the family ASU offers Women's Basketball Camp, Herb Sendek Basketball Camp, Petroglyph Pathfinders Summer Camp, Football Camp, Pat Murphy's All Nine Baseball Academy, Sun Devil Gymnastics Camp, Sun Devil Aqua Sport Camp, Sun Devil Combat Sports and Sun Devil Golf Camp.

<http://www.asu.edu/youth>

Valley Youth Theatre



Valley Youth Theatre's Education Department offers a four-week-long summer camp that includes a final day performance. The All Star Summer Playhouse, for campers ages 5-6, teaches theatre basics through lively games and activities. Each week campers participate in classes in acting, music and dance, as well as work together to produce a musical theatre showcase to be performed for friends and family. The Musical Theatre Summer Workshop, for campers ages 7-17 daily focuses on the three disciplines of musical theatre: acting, dance and music as well as participate in a production to be showcased at the end of the session. This camp gives students a well-rounded performing arts education in addition to experience in the audition process, rehearsal technique, ensemble building and performance.

Valley Youth Theatre, 525 North First Street, Phoenix
602.253.8188

<http://www.vyt.com>