# Help Them Make the Most of Summer Vacation

With the final bell of the school year about to ring, kids everywhere will soon be faced with the question: "What am I going to do today?"

Here are some things you can suggest to you kids over the upcoming summer months so when they find themselves back in class, they can think back about all the fun they had during the summer.

## Enjoy the Outdoors

They've probably spent most of the school year indoors studying, watching television and playing video games, so it is time to get outside. There are many things to do that require little or no money or planning:

- Swimming at the beach or community pool
- Taking a bike ride
- Taking a hike in the country or around the neighborhood
- Playing a pick-up game of baseball or basketball
- Skateboarding or rollerblading at the skate park
- Playing miniature golf
- Playing tennis
- Jumping on a trampoline
- Sitting under a tree reading a book

**Do something they've always wanted to try.** Try rock climbing, or Frisbee golf, or canoeing.

**Go to a baseball game.** If tickets are too expensive in the big leagues, there's likely a minor league squad near you. Or check out a Little League game at the local field.

**Have a water fight.** Tell them to round up some friends, equip themselves with water guns, water balloons and hoses, and find an open area. Pick teams and let the fun begin.

**Suggest they call a friend they haven't seen in a while.** Encourage your kids to give them a call and make plans to see a movie or go shopping.

**Earn money doing seasonal work.** Mowing lawns and washing cars in the neighborhood is a great way to earn money while helping out their neighbors.

**Have a yard sale.** One person's trash is another's treasure; they can make money selling toys, clothes and other possessions they no longer need.

**Check out a local park, fair or festival.** There are bound to be several fairs and street festivals in your area over the next few months, so have them round up some friends so they can check them out together.

**Host a cookout.** Have them plan a cookout. Tell them to invite friends or neighbors over so you can barbecue for them.

**Observe nature.** Set up a tent in the backyard so they can enjoy some time in the outdoors.

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