FUN AHEAD: CREATING YOUR FAMILY’S SUMMER BUCKET LIST

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SUMMER PLANNING IS A FAMILY AFFAIR

Understanding Your Child’s Wants and Needs
Toddlers & Preschoolers

Elementary School Age

Adolescents, Teens and Tweens

Kin and Kids Consulting, LLC
Summer Planning With and For Toddlers and Preschoolers

Kin and Kids Consulting, LLC
Addressing the Needs of Toddlers and Preschoolers

- Understand their method of communication with family and friends
- Provide them with a safe environment
- Provide them with opportunities to explore, build, pretend and manipulate
- Play and explore within their time frame

- Read to your child
- Play a listening Game
- Offer limited choices
- Stick to a regular routine
- Pack snacks and drinks
- Bring simple games and toys

Kin and Kids Consulting, LLC
Summer Planning With and For Elementary School Age Children
Addressing the Needs of Elementary School Age Children

- Ready for wider world of learning
- Test sense of confidence in the world
- Learn socially acceptable and appropriate behavior
- Begin to make commitments to social relationships outside of the family

Realistic expectations
Maintain dignity of your child
Provide opportunities to succeed
Education is their primary focus
Ego-Centric What’s in it for me?
Likes to learn new skills

Kin and Kids Consulting, LLC
Summer Planning With and For Adolescents, Teens, and Tweens

Kin and Kids Consulting, LLC
Addressing the Needs of Adolescents, Teens, and Tweens

- Value your teen’s Independence
- Communicate guidelines and expectations
- May spend more time alone and demand privacy
- Compare their own ideas and beliefs to others, and challenge those that are different

- Practice their thinking skills
- Maintain dignity of your child
- Importance of Self image
- Concern for others and society
- Risk takers
- Be a resource and role model

Kin and Kids Consulting, LLC
Conducting Your Summer Fun Planning Meeting
Planning to Plan: What to Bring to Your Family Summer Fun Planning Meeting

- Calendar with everyone's schedule
- Budget
- Maps, guidebooks, local event guides, wish lists
- Paper and Markers
- List of ground rules AKA Positive Communication tips
Ground Rules for a Successful Summer Fun Planning Meeting

- Set a time for the meeting so everyone in the family can join the planning
- Explain that each family member can voice their opinions or suggestions for activities without being interrupted—conch shell approach
- Be flexible
- No negativity allowed
- End it sweet
Tips for Successful Planning and Playing

- Build in some structure
- Don’t forget meal time and snacks
- Assign daily and weekly chores for everyone
- Start some new family traditions
- Build in pockets of quiet time for all

Kin and Kids Consulting, LLC
Ideas for Amazing Summer Fun

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Family Summer Fun Bucket List

- Pajama Party
- Blow bubbles
- BBQ
- Bowling
- Bird watching
- Hiking
- Plant a garden
- Help out at a community garden
- Scavenger Hunt
- Make brownies or cookies
- Taco Tuesday
- International Cooking
- Berry Picking
- Picnic in the park
- Give back to the community
- Create a healthy snack
- Play with shaving cream
- Sidewalk chalk drawing
- Dinner outside
- Inside picnic

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Family Summer Fun Bucket List

- Campfire picnic
- Finger Paint
- Popcorn and video at home
- Ghost Walk
- Free museum day
- Free community events and concerts
- Make lemonade
- Fly a kite
- Star gaze
- Go fishing

- Watch the lightning bugs
- Play in the rain
- Camp in the backyard
- Eat watermelon
- Roller skating
- Look for cloud animals
- Visit Farmer’s Market
- Library summer reading programs
- Have lunch with Mom or Dad at work
- Visit a historical sight
Family Summer Fun Bucket List

- Roast marshmallows
- Make kick-the-can ice cream
- Have a pillow fight
- Make homemade jam
- Make and bury a time capsule
- Play a new board game
- Mail a letter to a special person
- Explore a new culture
- Create a theme night dinner
- Visit a beach
Bucket List Just for Toddlers and Pre-schoolers

- Play with bubbles
- Finger paint
- Feed the ducks and birds
- Smell the flowers and leaves
- Run through the sprinklers
- Read a story outside
- Create a fort
- Watch the bugs and worms
- Make a noodle necklace
Bucket List Just for Teens

- Invent a new kind of pizza
- Grow a pizza garden
- Make a music video
- Build a sand castle
- Overnight movie marathon
- Frisbee golf
- Help out at a local charity
- Go swimming
- Sleep in backyard under the stars
Just for Teens Continued

- Play water balloon games
- Make ice cream sandwiches
- Create a website
- Get up early and watch the sunrise
- Watch the sunset
- Have a summer clothes fashion show
- Have a high tea using ice tea
- Learn to grill outdoors
- Visit a college

- Play miniature golf
- Picnic at a local park
- See a local sporting event
- Paint your toe nails
- Read
What’s On Your Family’s Summer Bucket List?