

AT A GLANCE

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Staycation June 2012 Newsletter

No need to travel this summer. Brainstorm some down–home activities your family can do that combine fun and learning! Summer is a great time for families to rediscover what their communities have to offer. It can be as simple as exploring your neighborhood with a walk, going further on a city bus or other public transportation, or participating in community classes and events.

By exploring local sites your child could:

- * use a pedometer and make a graph of the total steps taken every week Directions for a pedometer scavenger hunt and other ideas, <u>Click here.</u>
- * practice using a GPS, or a map app to go Geocaching Ready to try some treasure hunting? Watch this YouTube video to learn more. Click here.
- * play on an accessible playground
 Look up accessible playgrounds in your area and get a guide for designing an inclusive playground. Click here.
- * take photos of local stores and classify pictures of what is sold in different stores More classification games and ideas, <u>Click here.</u>
- * keep a written/pictorial journal of summer activities
 Directions for eight different books to make for your journals, Click here.

Make a Fun Activity Passport for Children, Click here.

By participating in typical community classes/events your child could:

* connect with new/old friends and help others learn children with disabilities are more like children without disabilities than different

Use this checklist to help determine how inclusive your local community classes are. Click here.

* participate in local library's reading program
Read how summer reading programs can be more inclusive. Click here.

Summer reading activities from Reading Rockets, Click here.

* have fun being a kid Try some new games from this site, Click here.

Rediscover your hometown this summer and be surprised how much fun and learning can be had on your staycation!

Identify your vision: Think outside of the ESY and summer therapy box.

Share ideas for summer fun with other families. Use your voice:

Work together: To create more inclusive recreation opportunities.

Take an action step now and email this newsletter to others!



Resources

Playing Smart: The Family Guide to Enriching, Offbeat Learning Activities for Ages 4-14 By Susan K. Perry



Websites

48 Ultra-Cool Summer Sites for Kids and Teachers Great puzzles, games, and learning activities, Click here.

Please let me know if you're interested in one of my presentations and/or customized consulting and coaching.

Remember, what we anticipate, determines what we find!

Charmaine Thaner

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^{*} gather neighborhood kids for some Olympic games Here are some activities and games for ages 3- 19, Click here.





As a parent and an educator, I bring 35+ years of experience and enthusiasm to create positive change for students, families, and educators!

How may I support you? Click the links below to learn more.

Parent Liaison

Presentations

Educational Consultant for Schools

Would you love to have an easy to read, magazine-like format blog to read?

Some of the articles are written by me and others are scooped from a variety of sites. Go to <u>Beyond Special</u> <u>Education</u>, then click on the blue Follow button in the right hand corner.

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