

# Kid's Corner

## Austin Outdoors

**Austin Zoo** - 20 minute drive - Give a goat a hug in the petting area, take a train ride through the Hill Country or talk to the animals at the Austin Zoo. [www.austinzoo.com](http://www.austinzoo.com)

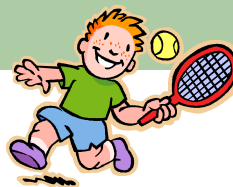


**Emma Long Park** - 30 minute drive - This 1,147-acre park is Austin's largest, offering a variety of recreation options. Hikers and walkers enjoy the Turkey Creek Nature Trail, while water-lovers appreciate the Lake Austin views. [www.wildtexas.com/texas-parks](http://www.wildtexas.com/texas-parks)

**Mount Bonnell** - 20 minute drive - This natural limestone formation is perched 200 feet above Austin, making it a popular picnic spot, hiking area or a place to just sit and admire the view.

**Natural Bridge Caverns** - 1 hour and 15 minute drive - Located in the beautiful Texas Hill Country, this is one of the world's premiere show caves with more than 10,000 different formations in underground chambers. [www.naturalbridgecaverns.com](http://www.naturalbridgecaverns.com)

**McKinney Falls State Park** - 30 minute drive - This park offers 740 acres of hiking and biking trails...great for viewing the area's beautiful waterfalls. [www.tpwd.state.tx.us](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us)



**Zilker Park** - 8 minute drive - Enjoy a walk along a creek, a round of disc golf, a soak in Barton Springs pool or a ride on the Zilker Zephyr train... all just a stone's throw from downtown Austin. [www.ci.austin.tx.us/zilker](http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/zilker)

**Pioneer Farms** - 20 minute drive - Step back in time and live the life of a Texas Hill Country pioneer farmer in the mid-to-late 19<sup>th</sup> century on this working farm. In addition to historically accurate farm animals, crops, furnishings, buildings, clothing and food, costumed interpreters help provide a picture of the past. [www.pioneerfarms.org](http://www.pioneerfarms.org)

## Exploring the City

**Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum** - 5 minute drive - The Museum and IMAX Theater capture the history and traditions of the Lone Star State through a variety of interactive and multi-media presentations. [www.thestoryoftexas.com](http://www.thestoryoftexas.com)

**Austin Children's Museum** - 10 minute walk - One of the most fun and educational museums in town, here kids will enjoy exhibits, touring shows, a playscape and much more. [www.austinkids.org](http://www.austinkids.org)



**Austin Nature & Science Center** - 15 minute drive - Explore the animals, plants

**Lyndon Baines Johnson Library and Museum** - 10 minute drive - One of 13 presidential libraries in the U.S., this Library houses 35 million pages of historic documents and provides year-round viewing of historic exhibits. [www.lbjlib.utexas.edu](http://www.lbjlib.utexas.edu)

and geology of Central Texas through hands-on exhibits in the Discovery Lab, featuring seven mini-science labs. [www.ci.austin.tx.us/ansc](http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/ansc)

**State Capitol** - 10 minute drive - The State Capitol building offers free guided tours of the rotunda and other areas of interest. The largest State Capitol in the U.S., it is constructed of 15,000 carloads of pink granite and took almost seven years to complete. [www.capitol.state.tx.us](http://www.capitol.state.tx.us)

### DID YOU KNOW?

The Texas Hill Country has more than 100 varieties of wildflowers.

The average temperature in Austin is 68° F.

Bats can eat up to half their body weight in insects *each night*.

According to *Dog Fancy* magazine, Austin is one of the top 10 cities to be a dog.

The Concierge at Four Seasons Hotel Austin is your ultimate guide to "kid-friendly" fun...

Our Concierge is more than happy to suggest "kid-friendly" dining options for children of any age.

For directions or more information on the events and activities mentioned in this newsletter, please visit the Concierge or press the  icon on your guest room phone for assistance.

## Events, Entertainment and More!

### **Air Fair** (April 1-May 22):

In this featured exhibit at the Austin Children's Museum, children and adults can investigate hands-on how air affects different objects and playfully discover the powers and properties of moving air through fun activities.

[www.austinkids.org](http://www.austinkids.org)

**Max and Ruby** (April 10): One World Theatre presents this whimsical story of Max and Ruby - the bunny siblings who, no matter what, treat each other with kindness and love.

[www.oneworldnonprofit.org](http://www.oneworldnonprofit.org)

### **Hansel and Gretel** (April 24-May 2):

In a fun twist on this classic fairytale, the Austin Lyric Opera drops adventurous siblings Hansel and Gretel into the "wilds" of New York City. Performed in English and German.

[www.austinlyricopera.org](http://www.austinlyricopera.org)

### **Coppelia** (May 7-9):

Ballet Austin performs classical ballet's greatest comedy, *Coppélia*, in this story of mistaken identity and a beautiful mechanical doll. With an engaging score by Leo Delibes, you'll be whisked away to a doll maker's workshop on Mother's Day weekend. [www.balletaustin.org](http://www.balletaustin.org)

### **Star Wars: In Concert** (June 6):

Listen to music from all six of composer John Williams' epic Star Wars scores during this massive multi-media event featuring live orchestra, stunning visuals and an exclusive exhibit of Star Wars costumes, props and production artwork. [www.starwarsinconcert.com](http://www.starwarsinconcert.com)

### **The Wizard of Oz** (June 11-13):

The entire family will enjoy traveling down the Yellow Brick Road and beyond with Dorothy and friends in this lavish production that reminds us there's no place like home...or Texas Performing Arts! [www.texasperformingarts.org](http://www.texasperformingarts.org)

## Family Day Trips

**SeaWorld San Antonio** - 1 hour and 30 minute drive - Sitting on 250 acres, SeaWorld San Antonio is more like four parks in one: a show park, a rides and slides park, a water park and an amazing animal park. [www.seaworld.com](http://www.seaworld.com)

**Blue Bell Creameries** - 1 hour and 50 minute drive - "We eat all we can and we sell the rest." This southern institution has been making ice cream since 1911. On weekdays, check out the on-site museum and take a tour of the facility (tours include an ice cream cone!). On

weekends, the Country Store and Ice Cream Parlor are open for you to sample the ice cream! [www.bluebell.com](http://www.bluebell.com)

### **Hill Country Flyer** - 40 minute drive -

Tour the beautiful Texas Hill Country by train on the *Hill Country Flyer*, which departs each weekend from Cedar Park. This old-fashioned steam train crosses the tall trestle over the South San Gabriel River on its way to Burnet. Enjoy lunch and shopping during a layover in Burnet and return by 4:30 p.m. [www.austinsteamtrain.org](http://www.austinsteamtrain.org)

**Six Flags Fiesta Texas** - 1 hour and 30 minute drive - Offering thrilling rides, award-winning shows and special events, Fiesta Texas even has its own water park. Be sure to check out the 4,025-foot Superman Krypton Coaster. [www.sixflags.com](http://www.sixflags.com)

**Enchanted Rock State Natural Area** - 2 hour and 15 minute drive - Designated a National Natural Landmark in 1970, the Rock is a gigantic, pink granite exfoliation dome that rises 425 feet above the ground and covers 640 acres. [www.tpwd.state.tx.us](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us)

## S'more Fun at Four Seasons Hotel Austin

National S'mores Day isn't until August, but thanks to Four Seasons Hotel Austin this outdoor treat can be enjoyed weekends year-round.

Each Friday and Saturday night from 8 to 10pm, guests of all ages are invited to gather around the chimineas on the Hotel's back lawn for complimentary s'mores. Trays piled high with chocolate, marshmallows and graham crackers are provided by TRIO, along with metal skewers to ensure perfect toasting every time.

Since most camping recipes were passed by word-of-mouth, the official



invention date of the s'more is unknown. What is known is that the first printed record of the recipe was in the 1927

Girl Scout's manual entitled "Tramping and Trailing with the Girl Scout."

According to lore, the original name for the layered graham cracker, chocolate and marshmallow treat was "some more," because anyone who tried one asked for another. The name was shortened, it's said, because it sounded more like "s'more" when pronounced with a full mouth of ooey gooey marshmallow! Others speculate the abbreviated name is because s'mores are just so delicious, you don't have time to say the whole phrase.

Whatever the reason, we hope you join us for some more s'mores during your stay!