

# Parent/Child Activities in the Danvers Area

## **Peabody Institute Library**

15 Sylvan Street

Danvers, MA 01923

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

978-774-0554

The Children's Room offers children and their parents materials ranging from board books (for the very young) to fiction and non-fiction titles for recreational reading and school assignments. Computers provide access to the library catalog, databases, and the Internet. Media – including videos on VHS or DVD, books on tape or CD, and music CDs – are available for checkout.

Story Time for ages 3 to 5 is held on Mondays from 10:00 to 10:45am. Craft Time for ages 3 to 5 is held on Tuesdays – children are invited to drop-in between 10:00 and 11:30am. Visit the library web site for other program offerings.

Every child is welcome to come in and apply for a library card, regardless of age, to begin (it is hoped) a lifetime of library use. FREE.

Museum passes can be reserved in advance in person or by telephone. There is a limit of one museum pass per family, per day. The passes are checked out on your library card. Some passes are turned into the ticket office at the respective museum. Other passes must be returned to the library. Passes are available for:

- ▶ Boston Children's Museum
- ▶ House of Seven Gables
- ▶ Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
- ▶ John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
- ▶ Museum of Fine Arts, Boston
- ▶ Museum of Science, Boston
- ▶ New England Aquarium (except July and August)
- ▶ Peabody Essex Museum
- ▶ Zoo New England

## **Danvers Recreation**

1 Sylvan Street

Danvers, MA 01923

[www.danversrec.com](http://www.danversrec.com)

978-777-0001

Seasonal, age-appropriate programs for children ages 2 and up.

The Fun Club After-School Program is a program for children from ages 5 to 10. There are two sites for the after-school program: the Riverside School site consists of children from Riverside, Thorpe and Highlands schools. The Great Oak School site houses the children from Smith and Great Oak schools. The program begins immediately after school and runs until 6:00pm. Parents or guardians can choose the number of days they wish their children to attend – anywhere from 1 to 5. Fun Club is also open during vacations, professional days, and in-service days. \$.

**Danvers Community YMCA**

34 Pickering Street  
Danvers, MA 01923  
[www.danversymca.org](http://www.danversymca.org)

978-774-2055

The YMCA offers activities and instructional programs for all ages, from infants to active older adults. Swimming lessons, competitive swimming, fitness for individuals and groups, dance classes, martial arts, and other specialty programs are part of the offerings. \$.

**Chuck E. Cheese**

139 Endicott Street,  
Danvers, MA 01923  
[www.chuckecheese.com](http://www.chuckecheese.com)

978-777-6370

A popular arcade/restaurant geared towards kids and families. Arcade games require tokens, which can be purchased in bulk. While playing games, kids earn tickets that can be redeemed for prizes. \$.

**Coco Key Water Resort**

50 Ferncroft Road  
Danvers, MA 01923  
<http://www.cocokeywaterresort.com/locations/danvers/index.aspx>

978-777-2500

Whatever the weather outside, it's always Florida inside CoCo Key Water Resort. Inspired by historic Key West, CoCo Key combines the relaxation and enchantment of the Keys with the wild excitement of a 65,000 square foot indoor waterpark.

There is really something for everyone here. Zero-entry depth wading pool with slides to thrill the toddler/young preschool set. Water depths run from zero to 2.6 feet in most areas. The deepest water is 3 to 4 feet in the bigger kids' sports pool where you'll find basketball hoops and a challenging rope climb over 4 feet of water. \$.

**Dunn Planetarium**

64 Cabot Road  
Danvers, MA 01923  
<http://www.danvers.mec.edu/uploads/district/planetarium/planetarium.html>

978-774-1801

Here in Danvers, we have a very unique classroom called The Dunn Planetarium. It is designed as a theater-in-the-round to simulate the earth and the sky as a great dome surrounding us. As the door closes and the lights are dimmed, the sky begins to rotate and children are transported to another place, time, or world, depending on the limits of their very fertile imaginations. \$.

**Endicott Park**

57 Forest Street  
Danvers, MA 01923  
[www.endicottpark.com](http://www.endicottpark.com)

978-774-6518

Endicott Park encompasses 165 acres, and is home to some of the most unique and varied recreational land on the North Shore.

The park's varied landscape includes horse pastures, fields and meadows, historic farm buildings, orchards, woodlands, and marshes, with a network of trails and dirt roads for stress free and stroller friendly exploration of the park.

Passive recreation activities for all ages abound, ranging from hiking, fishing, picnicking and enjoying the Kidstown Playground in the warmer months, to sledding, cross country skiing, and snowshoeing in the winter. Bathrooms and soda machines can be found in the Lawrence Crowley Visitor Center (The Carriage House). \$ for parking.

**Laser Quest**

139 Endicott Street  
Danvers, MA 01923  
<http://www.laserquest.com/Locations/USALocations.aspx?cntr=Danvers>

978-762-8778

Laser Quest combines the classic games of tag and hide & seek with a high-tech twist. Donning the most sophisticated laser tag equipment available, the game is played in a large, multi-level arena featuring specialty lighting, swirling fog, and heart-pounding music. Questors, whether individually or on teams, use their lasers to score as many points as possible by tagging the sensors on their opponents' equipment. Scorecards and code names add to the fun. \$.

**Monkey Joe's**

10 Newbury Street  
Danvers, MA 01923  
<http://www.monkeyjoes.com/walkinplay01923.aspx>

978-739-8099

At Monkey Joe's, kids have fun jumping, sliding and playing on gigantic, complex inflatables. Unlike other inflatables places that open just for parties, Monkey Joe's welcomes walk-ins all day, every day.

Monkey Joe's has over 15,000 square feet of wall-to-wall fun divided into age-appropriate areas that are clean, well lit, and have sufficient supervision for each age group.

Pizza and snack food are available; no outside food or drinks are permitted. A TV shows sports and news, there's free internet access, and two public-use computers. \$.

**Monster Mini Golf**

10 Newbury Street  
Danvers, MA 01923

[http://www.monsterminigolf.com/fran\\_ma\\_danvers.html](http://www.monsterminigolf.com/fran_ma_danvers.html)

978-762-4800

Monster Mini Golf is an indoor, mildly spooky, 18-hole glow-in-the-dark mini golf course. Fluorescent golf clubs, balls, props, walls, and special effects are illuminated with lots of black lights. The effect is more nighttime Las Vegas than haunted house.

Decor features monsters of all kinds (from Monster's Inc. kind of Monsters to the traditional freaky ones), but it's not so scary that small children and meek adults would not want to come...and no, they do not jump out at you.

There are also arcade games, a glow-in-the-dark air hockey table, and ticket redemption games including glow Skee-Ball. \$.

**Music Connection**

67 High Street  
Danvers, MA 01923

<http://www.musicconnection.biz/>

978-777-8900

Music Connection, formerly Music & Dance Connection, has moved to High Street. They offer Kindermusik, music lessons, and more. There are programs suited to every age group. \$.

**A Girl's Place Party Café and Boutique**

100 Cummings Center, Suite 131-Q  
Beverly, MA 01915

<http://www.a-girls-place.com/>

978-922-2799

Celebrate the special events in a girl's life! Spa Parties, Dress-Up Parties, music and dancing. Chocolate and lemonade fountains, make your own sundaes, pizza, tea menu, deluxe goody bags and much more! Birthdays, Mom's groups, Girl Scout troops. \$.

**Bonkers Funhouse**

535 Lowell Street  
Peabody, MA 01960

<http://www.bonkersfunhouse.com/>

978-535-8355

A fun, indoor entertainment destination for children, featuring a giant maze with tubes, a 10-foot wide slide, a mini ferris wheel, a frog hopper, a carousel, and many arcade games. A separate gated area for infants and toddlers has a smaller climbing structure and other age-appropriate activities. \$.

### **Extra Innings Indoor Baseball & Softball**

64 S. Main Street, Rte. 114  
Middleton, MA 01949  
<http://www.extra-innings.net/>

978-762-0668

New England's finest year-round indoor baseball and softball training facilities including indoor batting tunnels, coin-operated batting cages, a fully-stocked pro shop, batting stations, and a birthday party area. \$.

### **Eurostoves Culinary Center**

Commodore Plaza  
45 Enon Street  
Beverly, MA 01915  
[http://www.eurostoves.com/v/vspfiles/news\\_and\\_offers.html](http://www.eurostoves.com/v/vspfiles/news_and_offers.html)

978-232-0007

Eurostoves' Culinary Centre offers hands-on cooking classes for food-lovers of all ages in their 4,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art facility. Birthday parties, too!

Professional chefs, from a variety of backgrounds, with a passion for sharing their recipes and techniques teach all classes. \$.

A Sampling of EuroKids Cooking Classes:

*Moms & Tots Blizzard Blast (ages 3 to 5) \$49*

Take winter fun into the kitchen to cook up a wintery storm. Veggie & Rice Moguls \* Trailside Clusters \* Chocolate Avalanche \* Peanut Butter Snowballs. 1.5 hours.

*Pizza Madness (ages 6-11) \$65*

Gather your friends and join us for a fun time of pizza-making magic. 1.5 hours.

*Fun and Fast Desserts (ages 6-11) \$55*

Everyone loves dessert! This class will show you how to make quick and yummy desserts that will make you the superstar of the dinner. 1.5 hours.

*Snowball Fun (ages 6 to 11) \$49*

EuroKids After-School Snowball Fun (ages 6 to 11) Katie Wilton, author of children's cookbook *You're The Cook!*, will be the guest chef teaching you to create way-cool, tasty treats! Pizza Wontons \* Chicken Quesadillas \* Frittatas \* Strawberry Coulis & Strawberry Whipped Frosting. 1.5 hours.

### **Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary**

87 Perkins Row  
Topsfield, MA 01983  
[http://www.massaudubon.org/Nature\\_Connection/Sanctuaries/Ipswich\\_River/index.php](http://www.massaudubon.org/Nature_Connection/Sanctuaries/Ipswich_River/index.php)

978-887-9264

Ipswich River, Mass Audubon's largest sanctuary, offers more than 10 miles of interconnecting trails that invite you to explore the forests, meadows, and wetlands. Canoe along the eight miles of the Ipswich River that run through the sanctuary and camp on Perkins Island, located a half-mile up the river (members can rent canoes from May through November). \$.

### **House of the Seven Gables**

54 Turner Street  
Salem, MA 01970  
<http://www.7gables.org/>

978-744-0991

Tour the mansion made famous by Nathaniel Hawthorne's novel. Includes author's birthplace, seaside gardens, Museum Store, and Garden Cafe.

When you arrive at The Gables – which constitutes its own national historic district on The National Register of Historic places – costumed interpreters will warmly greet you for an unforgettable historical experience.

Outside, spectacular seaside gardens await you. Inside, The House of the Seven Gables, also known as the Turner-Ingersoll Mansion, you will discover a mysterious secret staircase where you least expect it! Built in 1668, this is the oldest surviving 17th century wooden mansion in New England. The House of the Seven Gables inspired author Nathaniel Hawthorne to write his legendary novel of the same name. \$.

### **McVann-O'Keefe Memorial Ice Arena**

511 Lowell Street  
Peabody, Ma 01960  
<http://www.peabody-ma.gov/skatingrink.aspx>

978-535-2110

Learn to skate or just have fun at Peabody's McVann-O'Keefe Memorial Skating Rink, located just minutes off Route 1 or Route 128 on Lowell Street.

The rink is open to the public for skating fun and lessons. Call or visit the rink for an update on lesson schedules. \$.

### **Peabody Essex Museum**

161 Essex Street  
Salem, MA 01970  
[www.pem.org](http://www.pem.org)

978-745-9500

A wonderful museum of international art and cultural history with 30 galleries, historic houses, period gardens, a cafe, and shops. Enjoy permanent and changing exhibitions and many special events. Open year-round. \$.

### **Plaster Fun Time**

400 Highland Avenue  
Salem, MA 01970  
<http://www.plasterfuntime.com/>

978-745-7788

Put on a smock, grab a paintbrush, and have some fun! Plaster Fun Time is a great spot for your craft-loving child. Kids choose plaster items molded into fun figures to paint and glaze. \$.

### **Pump It Up Party**

58 Webster Street

Peabody, MA 01960

<http://www.pumpitupparty.com>

978-532-5867

Pump It Up, 'The Inflatable Party Zone' is the new giant on the party block. For a price, partygoers enjoy the biggest, most elaborate inflatables you've ever seen. Huge slides, obstacle courses, even an inflated basketball court, get kids (and adults) pumping with delight.

Pump It Up Party re-defines inflatable fun in this bright, spotless destination for parties, outings, and drop-in play.

Pump it Up occupies 10,000 beautifully rehab-ed square feet in an industrial building near Peabody Square. Bright carpets, colorful walls, and a great sound system enhance two huge, separate 'bouncing' rooms. Two additional party rooms feature inflated thrones and dining tables for pizza and cake. \$.

### **La Vida Center for Outdoor Education Rock Gym**

Gordon College

255 Grapevine Road

Wenham, MA

<http://www.gordon.edu/rockgym>

978-867-4111

The mission of the La Vida Rock Gym is to provide a safe, fun and encouraging environment for kids (ages 8 and up) and adults as they learn and practice climbing and belaying skills.

The Rock Gym offers:

- ▶ Climbing/belaying skills relevant to outdoor settings
- ▶ Team-building experiences
- ▶ Celebration events (birthday parties, graduation parties)
- ▶ Development of character, perseverance and self-esteem
- ▶ Skill training at the beginner and intermediate climbing levels
- ▶ Physical fitness
- ▶ Special groups (Parent-Child, home-schooling, etc.)

The rock gym consists of an 8' by 30' bouldering wall, 25' vertical walls, 6 rope climbs, and a roof section. Routes range from easy to hard: 5.5 to 5.11. These routes are occasionally modified. The Rock Gym currently uses Entre Prises and Nicros holds. \$.

### **Roller Palace**

130 Sohier Road

Beverly, MA 01915

<http://www.rollerpalace.net/>

978-927-4242

The Beverly Roller Palace offers good clean fun on wheels, and birthday parties, too. \$.

**Wenham Museum**

132 Main Street

Wenham, MA

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

978-468-2377

The Wenham Museum is a family attraction that appeals to all ages. Opened in 1922, the museum has grown tremendously over the years into a great resource for the North Shore of Boston and beyond. To accommodate that growth, the building was recently renovated, doubling in size, offering visitors twice the amount of exhibit space and room for two simultaneous changing exhibits.

The permanent collection includes over 5,000 dolls and doll accessories, and toy soldiers from the American Revolution through World War II. The Model Train room is a maze of whirring, whistling antique trains and railroad artifacts, and kids are welcome to play conductor. The Family Discovery Room offers a variety of hands-on activities for kids of all ages. \$.

**Wolf Hollow**

114 Essex Road

Ipswich, MA 01938

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

978-356-0216

Open Saturdays and Sundays – weather permitting. Hour-long structured presentations are given at 1:30 on the weekends. The gift shop is open from 1:00 PM until 5:00PM. \$.

**The North Shore Children's Museum**

294 Essex Street

Salem, MA 01970

[http://www.northshoreymca.org/pages/11446\\_north\\_shore\\_children\\_s\\_museum.cfm](http://www.northshoreymca.org/pages/11446_north_shore_children_s_museum.cfm)

978-741-1811

The North Shore Children's Museum, located in the North Shore YMCA building, is a terrific place for kids of all ages to create, learn, and explore. Preschoolers will love to dress up in the dramatic play area, use their imagination on the climbing structure, and learn to cook a healthy meal in the kitchen/dining area.

Older children can learn about our North Shore oceanic resources in the tide pool, take home themed arts and crafts projects, and have access to educational computers with age-appropriate software for toddlers to teens!

Here is what your family will experience at the Museum:

- ▶ Learn about local marine life at the tide pool
- ▶ Be the star of stage and screen
- ▶ Experiment in the science center
- ▶ Be creative in the craft area
- ▶ Make music and merriment
- ▶ Hands-on learning and fun will spark your imagination

Open year-round, this museum offers an environment in which children and their parents are encouraged to participate in hands-on educational activities. \$.

**Barnes & Noble**

Northshore Mall

210 Andover Street

Peabody, MA 01960

<http://storelocator.barnesandnoble.com/storedetail.do?store=2993>

978-573-3261

Barnes & Noble offers a recurring story time for children on Monday mornings at 10:00, and on Friday evenings at 7:00. Visit their web site for more information.

**Borders Books and Music**

151 Andover Street (Route 114 West)

Peabody, MA 01960

[www.borders.com](http://www.borders.com)

978-538-3003

Borders offers a children's story time every Tuesday and Saturday morning at 10:30.