

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS CHECK LIST Summer 2009

Thinking of things to do over the holidays can sometimes be tricky. It's easy to end up doing the same thing over and over. We have pulled together this list to give you some inspiration for entertainment and the kids can tick them off as you do them.



Find your local playground

In recent years more playgrounds have appeared across the counties, many through determined local groups amazing fundraising efforts. If you are not sure where your best local playground is phone your local county council.

Go to the beach

Strike when the weather is good and make a day trip to your closest coastal resort. See page 47 for list of blue flag beaches.

Let the kids cook

Make some cakes or biscuits with the children. Alternatively see page 39 and let them make pitta pizza for lunch.



Go to the Cinema

There are always new releases during the holidays and some cinemas have special kids clubs at the weekend mornings.

Send a postcard

Modern methods of communication has had an impact on the humble letter arriving through your letter box. Get your child to buy a postcard (from a day trip or even your home town) and send to a friend or family member. Hopefully your child will be delighted when they receive a letter by return post.

Experience the Dawn Chorus

The Dawn Chorus is celebrated each year in mid May but you don't need to wait until then to experience it as it happens every morning between March and beginning of July.

Go to an open space

Take a ball to a local open green area to have a good kick around and burn off some of that endless energy.

Go camping

Even if you cannot manage a trip to a campsite have a night camping out in the garden under the stars. If you don't have a tent borrow one from a friend. Kids love it and it's like a big adventure - do ensure children are safe.



Family walk or cycle

Go for a family walk or cycle in a forest, park or on the beach and enjoy some nature.

Fly a kite

There is a great sense of achievement when a child flies a kite. If you want to buy one find a single line model. Some character kites are available quite cheap and do actually fly very well. Follow guidelines on the packet and ensure you fly safely.

Visit your library

There is a whole host of events going on in many of the local libraries across the country. Check out what's happening in your branch and enjoy a few hours of free entertainment.



Visit some animals

Kids love animals of all shapes and sizes. Visit a zoo, farm or aquarium to visit some animals.

