Summer Fun 2017!
Summer will be upon us before we know it!
Enjoy the summer freedom while you can!

Speech and Language skills during the summer

Play with sidewalk chalk: Draw pictures of different shapes, animals, clothing, vehicles, toys, common household items and summer items. Ask your child to "Find the ____" and answer "What is this?" Play a listening and following directions game by asking your child to step on the pictures as you name them or describe them (find the one that says "moo"). Other directions can include, "hop to the ball, jump on the sun, skip to the shovel, bear crawl to the square, hop to the boat and the shorts."

Take a Walk: You can walk around the block, on the beach or take a hike in a park. As you walk, name things that you see and use describing words such as "I see a green leaf, I found a yellow flower, look at the crashing waves, we are climbing a steep hill." Play a game of "I Spy" to work on colors and descriptions... "I spy something green (grass), I spy something wet (ocean, sprinkler, lake), I spy something hot (sun).

Blow Bubbles: Blowing bubbles is not only fun and a great reason to spend time outside but it helps develop oral motor skills, breathing skills, turn taking, social skills and language skills... "You blew a big bubble, I blew a little bubble, The bubble popped, Blow the bubble over the flower, The bubble popped on the grass, The bubble went under the chair."

Take a day trip: Take trips to local parks, museums, beaches, zoos, amusement parks, water parks etc. These activities are fun but also provide opportunities for your child to experience things in their community that help them build background knowledge—an important base of personal experiences that are essential for reading comprehension and learning. Life experiences help broaden vocabulary and facilitate personal connections to stories and text. These connections help material children with participating in group discussions and reading new material.
Events for the Summer

Cinemark Summer Movie Clubhouse

370 Bridge Street (map)
Huntsville, AL 35806
256-327-8340
https://www.cinemark.com

This is a 10-week program that provides parents and their children a safe, fun, entertainment experience this summer. Each Monday through Thursday, from June 5-August 10 they will show re-released classic G- and PG-rated family-friendly films. Movies start at 10 a.m. Cost is $5 for 10 movies or $1 per show.

- June 5-8 – The Secret Life of Pets
- June 12-15 – The LEGO Batman Movie
- June 19-22 – Trolls
- June 26-29 – Shrek The Third
- July 3-6 – Goosebumps
- July 10-13 – The Iron Giant
- July 17-20 – Hotel Transylvania 2
- July 24-27 – Megamind
- July 31-August 3 – The Angry Birds Movie
- August 7-10 – Sing

Regal Hollywood 18 $1 Family Movies

3312 South Memorial Pkwy (map)
Huntsville, AL 35802
(256) 883-1101
https://www.regmovies.com/movies/summer-movie-express

For nine-weeks, Regal Cinemas will offer selected G or PG rated movies for only a dollar on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings at 10AM. Both movies play on both days!

Note: A portion of proceeds from the Summer Movie Express will be donated to the Will Rogers Institute. Will Rogers uses the money to fund the institute’s mission in the areas of medical research and health education. The Regal Foundation, a non-profit 501(c)(3) charity established by Regal Entertainment Group, also provides monetary grants to local Boys and Girls Clubs to bring club members to the Summer Movie Express.

- June 6 & 7 – Kung Fu Panda 3 and Ice Age: Collision Course
- June 13 & 14 – Trolls and Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked
- June 20 & 21 – Monster Trucks and Penguins of Madagascar
- June 27 & 28 – Rio 2 and The Boxtrolls
- July 4 & 5 – The Secret Life of Pets and Sing
- July 11 & 12 – Kubo and the Two Strings and Ratchet and Clank
- July 18 & 19 – The Spongebob Square Pants Movie: Sponge Out of Water and The Adventures of Tin Tin
- July 25 & 26 – Happy Feet 2 and Cats & Dogs 2: The Revenge of Kitty Galore
- August 1 & 2 – Storks and The Lego Batman Movie

Another Event!

Family Fun Festival and Expo

Location: VBC South Hall (map)
Date(s)/Times: June 17, 10AM-5PM
Cost: FREE

More Info:
http://www.familyfunfesthsv.com/

A community event that offers face-to-face interactions with exhibitors that support families, fun, & learning! This family festival will feature a full day of face painting, inflatables and kids activities as well as many area businesses that cater to families. There will be live performances and free health screenings in addition to the children’s activities.
Sun and Water Safety Tips

From The American Academy of Pediatrics

POOL SAFETY
* Install a fence at least 4 feet high around all four sides of the pool. The fence should not have openings or protrusions that a young child could use to get over, under, or through.
* Make sure pool gates open out from the pool, and self-close and self-latch at a height children can’t reach.
* Consider alarms on the gate to alert you when someone opens the gate. Consider surface wave or underwater alarms as an added layer of protection.
* The safest fence is one that surrounds all 4 sides of the pool and completely separates the pool from the house and yard. If the house serves as the fourth side of the fence, install an alarm on the exit door to the yard and the pool. For additional protection, install window guards on windows facing the pool. Drowning victims have also used pet doors to gain access to pools. Keep all of your barriers and alarms in good repair with fresh batteries.
* Keep rescue equipment (a shepherd’s hook – a long pole with a hook on the end — and life preserver) and a portable telephone near the pool. Choose a shepherd’s hook and other rescue equipment made of fiberglass or other materials that do not conduct electricity.
* Avoid inflatable swimming aids such as “floaties.” They are not a substitute for approved life jackets and can give children and parents a false sense of security.
* Children over age 1 may be at a lower risk of drowning if they have had some formal swimming instruction. However, there is no evidence that swimming lessons or water survival skills courses can prevent drowning in babies younger than 1 year of age. The decision to enroll a child over age one in swimming lessons should be made by the parent based on the child’s developmental readiness and exposure to water, but swim programs should never be seen as “drown proofing” a child of any age.
* Avoid entrapment: Suction from pool and spa drains can trap a swimmer underwater. Do not use a pool or spa if there are broken or missing drain covers. Ask your pool operator if your pool or spa’s drains are compliant with the Pool and Spa Safety Act. If you have a swimming pool or spa, ask your pool service representative to update your drains and other suction fittings with anti-entrapment drain covers and other devices or systems. See PoolSafely.gov for more information on the Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act.
* Large, inflatable, above-ground pools have become increasingly popular for backyard use. Children may fall in if they lean against the soft side of an inflatable pool. Although such pools are often exempt from local pool fencing requirements, it is essential that they be surrounded by an appropriate fence just as a permanent pool would be so that children cannot gain unsupervised access.
* If a child is missing, look for him or her in the pool or spa first.
* Share safety instructions with family, friends and neighbors.

For more tips on sun and water safety, visit www.healthychildren.org

HEAT STRESS

Infants and small children are not able to regulate their body temperature in the same way that adults do. Every year, children die from heat stroke from being left in a hot car, often unintentionally, with the majority of these deaths occurring in children 3 and under. Here are a few tips for parents when traveling in a car with infants or young children:
Always check the back seat to make sure all children are out of the car when you arrive at your destination. Avoid distractions while driving, especially cell phone use. Be especially aware of kids in the car when there is a change from the routine, ie. someone else is driving them in the morning, or you take a different route to work or child care. Have your childcare provider call if your child has not arrived within 10 minutes of the expected arrival time. Place your cell phone, bag or purse in the back seat, so you are reminded to check the back seat when you arrive at your destination. The inside of a car can reach dangerous temperatures quickly, even when the outside temperature is not hot. Never leave a child alone in a car, even if you expect to come back soon. Lock your car when it is parked so children cannot get in without supervision.