

Kid's Fun Guide

Explore & Learn

the Building for Kids

New exploration awaits kids as they engage in mind-challenging, hands-on exhibits, adventure camps and activities for both young and old. Closed on Mondays during school year; T-F 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sa 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Su noon-5 p.m. City Center Plaza, 100 W. College Ave., Appleton; (920) 734-3226; www.buildingforkids.org.

The History Museum at the Castle (formerly Outagamie Museum)

Take a leap back in time to rediscover what early life and industry was like in the Fox Cities, plus learn about the life and magic of Appleton's own Harry Houdini. T-Sa 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday noon-5 p.m. 330 E. College Ave., Appleton; (920) 735-9370, Ext. 0; www.foxvalleyhistory.org.

Barlow Planetarium

Do some major star gazing! Advanced digital projection system offers an awesome view of the universe. Show times vary so call ahead! Admission charged. UW-Fox Valley, 1478 Midway Road, Menasha; (920) 832-2848; www.fox.uwc.edu/Barlow.

Weis Earth Science Museum

This museum rocks! It's the only museum dedicated to the geologic history of Wisconsin. Learn about fossils, geology, paleontology and agriculture. Call for hours. UW-Fox Valley, 1478 Midway Road, Menasha; (920) 832-2600; www.uwfoxvalley.uwc.edu.

Paper Discovery Center

Explore the world of paper through a hands-on experience. Learn how paper is made in area mills and make your own paper! 425 W. Water St., Appleton; (920) 380-7491; www.paperdiscoverycenter.org.

Lamers Dairy

Visit this dairy and watch through an observation window to see how milk is processed. M, T, Th, F 8 a.m.-noon; W noon-3 p.m. N410 Speel School Road, Appleton; (920) 830-0980.

1000 Islands Environmental Center

Get wild! Go bird watching, hike on riverbank trails, identify wild food and much more! Stop in the nature center and check out the cool trophy mounts from North America, Africa and Asia! Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-4 p.m.; Saturday & Sunday 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Donations appreciated. 1000 Beaulieu Court, Kaukauna; (920) 766-4733.

Children's Farm at Plamann Park

Cows, goats and chickens, oh my! Pack a lunch, have a picnic and spend your day hiking and hanging out on the farm. Open daily 9 a.m.-4 p.m. mid-May through September, weather permitting. Please call first. 1375 Broadway, Appleton; (920) 832-4790.

Gordon Bubolz Nature Preserve

Put on your explorer's hat and get ready for a serious nature adventure! Hike the trails, try out nature programs and have a blast at the earth shelter center! T-F 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Sa 11 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Su 12:30-4:30 p.m. Donations appreciated. 4815 N. Lynndale Drive, Appleton; (920) 731-6041; www.athenet.net/~bubolz.

Heckrodt Wetland Reserve

Blaze a trail through 60 acres of wetland on a raised wooden boardwalk and keep your eyes peeled for cool critters. Don't forget to check out the nature center featuring an indoor wetland. Nature Center open T-F 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Sa & Su 11 a.m.-4 p.m.; Reserve open 6 a.m.-9 p.m. daily. 1305 Plank Road, Menasha; (920) 720-9349; www.heckrodtwetland.org.

Special Memories Zoo

There is something for everyone to enjoy from animals, flowers and waterfalls to wandering walkways with rest areas. Open mid-May to mid-October 9 a.m.-5 p.m. weather permitting. W7013 Spring Road, Greenville; (920) 757-9695.

Mulberry Lane Farm

"Hands-on" farm learning experience. You can even milk a cow! Open Tu-F May/June; Daily in October. W3190 Cty. Rd. B, Sherwood. (920) 989-3130. www.mulberrylanefarmwi.com



Play

Badger Sports Park

5.3-acre family entertainment center that includes go-karts, batting cages and miniature golf.

3600 E. Evergreen Dr., Appleton; (920) 830-6900;
www.badgersportspark.com

Fox River Mall

The state's second largest mall. Don't miss the Build-A-Bear Workshop where kids can make their own stuffed animals, over 180 retailers and 15 eateries in Northwoods Cafe.

4301 W. Wisconsin Ave., Appleton, (920) 739-4100;
www.foxrivermall.com

Funset Boulevard

Fox Cities' biggest amusement complex featuring video games, laser tag, virtual reality, movie theaters, miniature golf and a Hollywood-themed restaurant. 3916 W. College Ave., Appleton (in the Hollywood Cinema Complex); (920) 993-0909; www.funset.com.

Monkey Joe's Party & Play Center

Nine inflatables with three for 3 and under. Arcade area. Parent lounge with comfortable seating, television, computers and free wi-fi. 1800 N. Casaloma Dr., Appleton, (920) 954-5437;
www.monkeyjoes.com.



The Player's Choice

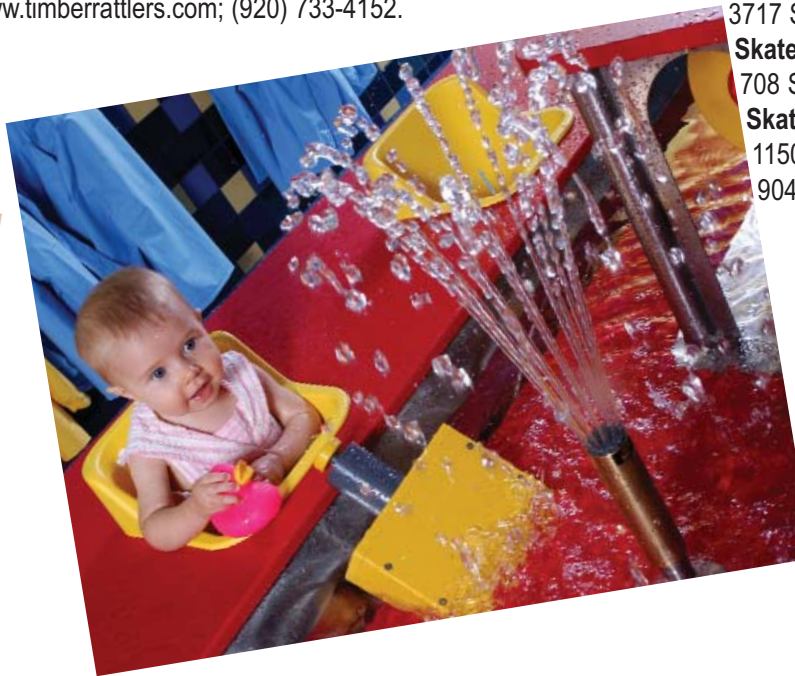
68,000 square-foot indoor sports facility featuring indoor baseball, volleyball, basketball, golf and batting cages. Party and concession area available. W3035 County Road JJ, Appleton; (920) 731-7529; www.pcappleton.com.

Wild Air Playzone

Looking to add a little bounce to your life? Wild Air has 15,000 sq. ft. of giant size inflatables, similar to the "moonwalk" at your local fair but bigger—much bigger. For ages two on up to adults there's gigantic slides, obstacle courses and even a human foosball game. Please call ahead. (920) 830-2200; W3223 Springfield Dr., Appleton.

Wisconsin Timber Rattlers Baseball

Catch professional baseball action at Fox Cities Stadium April to September. The Wisconsin Timber Rattlers are a Class A affiliate of the Milwaukee Brewers. Fox Cities Stadium, 2400 N. Casaloma Drive, Appleton; www.timberrattlers.com; (920) 733-4152.



ICE SKATING - INDOOR

Appleton Family Ice Center

Ice rink offers a skate rental. Call ahead for public skating times. 1717 E. Witzke Blvd., Appleton; (920) 830-7679; www.appletonfamilyicecenter.com.

Tri County Ice Arena

Seasonal ice (Oct.-March). Skate rental available 700 E. Shady Lane, Neenah; (920) 731-9731.

IN-LINE SKATING/SKATEBOARDING

Neenah Skate Park

2121 Marathon Ave., Neenah; (920) 751-4614.

ROLLER SKATING RINKS

Fox Valley Roller Rink

1215 Gillingham Road, Neenah; (920) 722-0502.

Gem Roller Rink

3717 S. Oneida St., Appleton; (920) 734-2123.

Skate City

708 S. Railroad St., Kimberly; (920) 788-6059.

Skaters Edge

1150 N. Mayflower Drive, Appleton; (920) 733-9043.

For a complete kid's fun guide visit www.foxcities.org