



Big Brothers Big Sisters
of Metro Milwaukee

The Big Update

Activity Ideas, Events and News for Bigs

March/April 2009

IN THIS ISSUE

Big-Little Bowl

Volunteer Opportunities

New Social Events

Activity Ideas

March Events

April Events

Ongoing Events

BIG LINKS

[Upcoming Match
Activities](#)

[Deals & Discounts](#)

[More Activity Ideas](#)

[Big Update Archive](#)

[Match Support Tips](#)

[BBBS Calendar](#)

[Make a Donation](#)

Big-Little Bowl 2009

Go Bowling with Bigs and Littles!

March 21, 12:30-3 p.m.
Olympic Lanes, 4040 S. 27th St., Milwaukee



Bigs and Littles are invited to be part of Bowl for Kids' Sake, an important fundraiser for the programs and staff that support every match! **Raise \$100** from family, friends and co-workers and enjoy **two free games of bowling, shoe rental, T-shirts, pizza and sodas for you and your Little!** It's a great way to meet other matches.

[Click here to register](#), or contact Nancy B. at (414) 258-4778, ext. 226 or nbong@bbbsmilwaukee.org.

Volunteer Opportunities for Matches

Help Your Little Learn the Importance of Helping Others

Contact Kerry Bloomquist at 414-258-4778, ext. 228 or kbloomquist@bbbsmilwaukee.org to register for these opportunities:

Saturday, March 14, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

[Milwaukee Rescue Mission](#), 830 N. 19th St., Milwaukee
Help clean classrooms. No age requirement for Littles.

Saturday, April 4, 10 a.m.-noon

[Hope House of Milwaukee](#), 209 W. Orchard St., Milwaukee
For Littles ages 10 and up. Sort food and stock shelves in the food pantry.

New Social Events!



We've started a new series of social events for Bigs, their friends and the community called "Mix@Six." Network and socialize with BBBS at some of the area's coolest spots.

Adults 21 and older only!

Register with Tracie at 414-258-4778, ext. 251 or tthacker@bbbsmilwaukee.org.

Mix@Six Social at Sugar Maple

Thursday, March 19, 6-8 p.m. - RSVP by March 17

441 E. Lincoln Ave., Milwaukee

Cost: Free admission - One free beer plus drink specials!

Mix@Six Social at Mo's Irish Pub

Wednesday, April 22, 6-8 p.m. - RSVP by April 21

10842 W. Bluemound Rd., Wauwatosa

Cost: Free admission - Drink and appetizer specials and trivia!

Chilly Day Activity Ideas

See a \$1 Planetarium Show

Explore the sky at the UWM Manfred Olson Planetarium (in the Physics Building, 1900 E. Kenwood Blvd., Milwaukee). Every Friday night at 7 p.m. see a 55-minute show for just \$1/person. [More info >>](#)

Spend Saturday at the Library

Every Saturday at 10:30 a.m. the Milwaukee Central Library has free kid-friendly activities, like music and art projects (recommended for ages 6-12). Take a tour of the historic building every Saturday at 1:30 p.m. Explore Great Lakes shipwrecks in the Frank P. Zeidler Humanities Room. Hang out, read and play in the Betty Brinn Children's Room. Browse at the Bookseller, featuring books on sale for 25 cents to \$2. [Visit the Milwaukee Public Library web site for details >>](#)

See a Play

Through our [Big Deal Discount Club](#), get a free ticket for your Little and 50% off your own ticket to any First Stage Children's Theater production. For tickets, [contact Mithra Ballesteros](#) at First Stage at 414-267-2929. In March, see "The Neverending Story" and in April, "How I Became a Pirate." [Click here for show dates and times >>](#)

March Events

It's always a good idea to check for last-minute changes or cancellations!

Happy Birthday Dr. Seuss!

Saturday, March 7, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Central Library, 814 W. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee

Ages: 6-12 (suggested)

Cost: **Free**

Celebrate the birthday of Dr. Seuss with lots of fun activities, including an appearance by the Cat in the Hat, live music, a Seuss-inspired fishing pond and face painting.

TimeTrain 2009 Model Train Show

Saturday, March 7 - Sunday, March 8, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Milwaukee School of Engineering, 1025 N. Broadway, Milwaukee

Cost: **Free** admission and parking

MSOE's Society of Model Engineers' 44th Annual Train Show features more than 20 model railroading exhibitors and a train ride for all ages on 626 feet of track.

COMPASS Guide: College Admission Requirements

Wednesday, March 11, 6-7:30 p.m.

Washington Park Library, 2121 N. Sherman Blvd., Milwaukee

Ages: Teens

Cost: **Free**

Help your Little learn what colleges require for acceptance and how to prepare for standardized tests like the ACT.

Junior Leagues' Kids in the Kitchen

Thursday, March 12, 4-5:30 p.m. OR 5:30-7 p.m.

Whole Foods Market, 2305 N. Prospect Ave., Milwaukee

Ages: 6-12

Cost: **Free - Registration required** at <http://kitk-milw.eventbrite.com>

This event will include Nutritional Learning Stations where kids will participate in hands-on activities, including a cooking class, healthy food scavenger hunt and other fun activities.

BBBS Invite-a-Friend Rock Climbing

Saturday, March 14, 1-3 p.m.

Adventure Rock, 21250 W. Capitol Dr., Pewaukee

Cost: \$9/person (that's 50% off!)

Join other Bigs and Littles for some indoor rock climbing. Introduce an adult friend to BBBS at this fun event! No experience or gear required. **RSVP by**

March 12: contact Tracie at 414-258-4778, ext. 251 or

tthacker@bbbsmilwaukee.org.

Milwaukee St. Patrick's Day Parade

Saturday, March 14, Noon

Downtown Milwaukee

Cost: **Free**

With its route right in the heart of downtown Milwaukee, this 100-unit parade features marching bands, pipe and drum corps and local personalities.

St. Patrick's Family Day at the Domes

Sunday, March 15, Noon-5 p.m.

Mitchell Park Domes, 524 S. Layton Blvd., Milwaukee

Cost: \$5.50 Bigs, \$4 Littles

This day of celebration and fun will feature all things Irish including dancing, singing, displays, crafts and tasty Irish treats.

One Wild Saturday Morning Drop-in: Howlers

Saturday, March 21, 9 a.m.-noon

Havenwoods State Forest, 6141 N. Hopkins St., Milwaukee

Cost: **Free**

Did you know there are foxes and coyotes at Havenwoods? Drop in and learn about these canines, and discover cool things about nature through hands-on activities, experiments, crafts and games.

Maple Sugar Days

Saturday, March 28 - Sunday, March 29, 1-4 p.m.

Wehr Nature Center, 9701 W. College Ave., Franklin

Cost: \$5 ages 13+, \$3 under 13; Parking: \$3/car

Hike with a naturalist guide to the sugarbush to see tapped sugar maples and taste fresh sap as it drips from the trees. Next, you'll visit an old-time sugarin' camp and hear stories of how the old-timers produced maple syrup and sugar.

Wisconsin Birds of Prey

Saturday, March 28, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Havenwoods State Forest, 6141 N. Hopkins St., Milwaukee

Cost: **Free**

Visit with a variety of Wisconsin hawks, owls and falcons.

Florentine Opera Company Presents Pinocchio

Throughout March

Various public libraries ([Click here for dates and locations >>](#))

Ages: 6-10 (suggested)

Cost: **Free**

Pinocchio tells the tale of a classic Italian folk story. Sung in English, this engaging 45-minute performance, set to the music of Mozart, Donizetti, Offenbach, Pergolesi, Sullivan and Verdi, includes song, dance, drama and hilarity.

April Events

It's always a good idea to check for last-minute changes and cancellations!

Wheel & Sprocket Bike Expo

Thursday, April 2 - Sunday, April 5, [click here for times >>](#)

Wisconsin Exposition Center, 8200 W. Greenfield Ave., West Allis

Cost: **Free** admission

Check out more than 1,500 bikes, plus experts, clinics, seminars and more!

Spring Scavenger Hunt Hike

Saturday, April 4, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Havenwoods State Forest, 6141 N. Hopkins St., Milwaukee

Cost: **Free**

Take a hike and use magnifiers and binoculars to look for early signs of spring, like the first robin, red-winged blackbird, and flower in bloom.

Metroparent's KIDSfest

Saturday, April 18, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday, April 19, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

Wisconsin Exposition Center, 8200 W. Greenfield Ave., West Allis

Ages: 6-12 (suggested)

Cost: **Free** admission

Two days of fun, entertainment, learning and hands-on, kid-friendly activities.

Milwaukee Riverkeeper River Cleanup and Trash Bash

Saturday, April 18, 9 a.m.-noon

Many riverside locations ([Click here for a site list >>](#))

Cost: **Free**

Find a location and [register with Milwaukee Riverkeeper](#) (414-287-0207). Then show up on April 18 ready to clean up! Trash bags and work gloves provided. Wear clothes you don't mind getting dirty.

Earth Day Extravaganza

Saturday, April 25, 9 a.m.-9 p.m.

Retzer Nature Center, S14 W28167 Madison St., Waukesha

Cost: **Free**

Day-long Earth Day celebration including a morning bird watch, hiking, campfire with s'mores and more.

In Celebration of Trees

Saturday, April 25 - Sunday, April 26, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Boerner Botanical Gardens, 9400 Boerner Dr., Hales Corners

Cost: \$1/person

A combination of Earth Day and Arbor Day, this event offers guided nature hikes, family activities, demonstrations, displays and information booths.

Spring Nature Fest

Saturday, April 25, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Havenwoods State Forest, 6141 N. Hopkins St., Milwaukee

Cost: **Free**

Participants will be able to plant trees, go on an eco-scavenger hunt, make crafts from recycled materials, and learn about "green" living.

Ongoing Events

Free Days at the Zoo

Saturday, March 7 and Saturday, April 4

Milwaukee County Zoo, 10001 W. Bluemound Rd., Milwaukee

Cost: **Free** admission; Parking: \$10/car

See the animals for free!

Urban Underground Open Mic Night

Last Friday of every month, 6-8 p.m.

Urban Underground, 4850 W. Fond du Lac Ave., Milwaukee

Ages: 13-17

Cost: **Free**

Teens are invited to see, hear and spit poetry at Urban Underground the last Friday of the month! Events fill up fast, so get there early.

Please Note: Inclusion in The Big Update does not constitute an endorsement by Big Brothers Big Sisters of Metro Milwaukee or its staff. Big Brothers Big Sisters is not responsible for cancellations, changes or errors in dates, times or any other information regarding the events listed in The Big Update. The information presented here was accurate as of 2/24/09.

Email Marketing by



Big Brothers Big Sisters of Metro Milwaukee | 788 N Jefferson St Ste 600 | Milwaukee | WI | 53202-3739