



Big Brothers Big Sisters
of Metro Milwaukee

The Big Update

The BBBS quarterly newsletter of activity ideas



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Match Anniversaries

Congratulations to all matches who celebrated an anniversary in April, May and June! Take a look at [the list of match anniversaries on our Web site.](#)

Big Deal Discount Club

Our discount program provides discounts and special offers for Bigs and Littles at designated locations. Visit the Mentoring Tools section of our Web site for [the ever-expanding list of participating Big Deal locations.](#) If you go to one of these businesses, please let them know how much you appreciate their participation.

Greetings!

There's so much to do in the summer and schedules fill up fast. If your summer weekends are booked, pick one weekday and try to schedule that time each week to meet with your Little. It's a great excuse not to work late one night a week!

Many of you have asked your Match Support Specialist for things your Littles can do during their summer break. Check out the Match Support Corner for ideas on safe, fun activities for out-of-school kids.

We hope you enjoy our selection of free and cheap summer activity ideas and community events. Look for the next *Big Update* at the end of September.

Summer Activity Ideas

Listen to Music in the Parks - Pack a picnic and enjoy free, outdoor [music at Milwaukee County parks, Waterfront Wednesdays in Pewaukee](#) or [Jazz in Cutler Park](#) in Waukesha.

Go to a Theme Park for Less - Milwaukee Recreation offers [reduced-price tickets](#) to Great America, Noah's Ark and other nearby attractions. Tickets available at 5225 W. Vliet St., Milwaukee (cash only).

Watch an Outdoor Movie - Watch a free movie under the stars at [River Flicks](#) in Milwaukee's Pere Marquette Park (every Friday in Aug.) or [Cinema in the Sand](#) in Pewaukee (July 11 and Aug. 8).

Go for an Evening Swim - Night swims (5:30-7:30 p.m.) are only \$0.75 at [Milwaukee County pools](#). Or get a season passes for only \$15 (11 and up) or \$10 (under 11) and swim all summer for cheap. [Waukesha pools](#) also offer an evening discount.

Hit the Beach - Build sand castles at a [Milwaukee County beach](#) (free) or take a dip at one of [Waukesha County's swim beaches](#) (\$5/car weekends, \$2.50/car weekdays).

Take an Ethnic Grocery Store Trip - Expose your Little to different cultures and their foods at an ethnic grocery, like Glorioso's, A.J.'s Polish Deli or Indian Grocery and Spices. Check out the [OnMilwaukee.com ethnic grocery guide](#) for more ideas.

Go-Kart in the Park - Show your BBBS membership card and get two-for-one rentals at [High Roller Fun Rentals](#) in Frame Park, Waukesha.

Spend a Saturday with Nature - Every Saturday at the [Urban Ecology Center](#), discover the world of science through activities and crafts from 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. or feed the resident turtles and snakes at 1 p.m., free of charge (donations encouraged). Help preserve Riverside Park by volunteering from 9-11 a.m.

Meet a Farmer - Browse a farmers market for fresh produce and locally-produced goods. The [Farm Fresh Atlas](#) provides a list of markets, many of which feature live music and food

vendors.

July, Aug. and Sept. Events

Contact the sponsoring organization before you go to check for last-minute changes or cancellations!

Spangles and Spokes - Decorate your bikes and trikes for the Waukesha 4th of July parade. Crepe paper and flags provided. Free bike helmets to the first 75 kids.

When: **Thurs., July 3**, 10 a.m. - noon (parade on July 4)

Where: Cutler Park, Waukesha

Cost: FREE

Food Fear Factor - Teens can dare to digest some of the craziest concoctions ever created. How many rounds will your Little last? Pre-registration required: 414-286-3090.

When: **Mon., July 7**, 2-4 p.m.

Where: [Center Street Library](#) (2727 W. Fond du Lac Ave., Milwaukee)

Ages: 13-17

Cost: FREE

South Shore Frolics - A three-day event with food, live music, a movie on the beach and games for children. Don't miss the famous parade on Saturday morning!

When: **Fri., July 11 - Sun., July 13**

Where: South Shore Park (2900 S. Shore Dr., Milwaukee)

Cost: FREE admission

Betty Brinn Children's Museum Neighborhood Nights - Enjoy the museum for free the third Thursday night of every month. Aug. 21 features a back-to-school resource fair with free school supplies, while supplies last.

When: **Thurs., July 17, Aug. 21 and Sept. 18**, 5-8 p.m.

Where: Betty Brinn Children's Museum (929 E. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee)

Ages (suggested): 6-10

Cost: FREE

Garfield Avenue Blues, Gospel and Arts Festival - Food, blues and gospel music, children's activities and arts and crafts.

When: **Sat., July 19**

Where: Garfield Ave. between 3rd and 7th St., Milwaukee

Cost: FREE admission

Great Downer Avenue Bike Race - Live outdoor music, food, fun and an exciting, international bicycle race - a great neighborhood party!

When: **Sat., July 26**

Where: Historic Downer Ave., Milwaukee

Cost: FREE admission

Bradford Beach Jam - Beach volleyball, rugby, dodgeball, disc golf, beach soccer, windsurfing, food and live music

When: **Fri., July 25 - Sat., July 26**, 9 a.m. - 10 p.m.; **Sun., July 27**, 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Where: Bradford Beach (Lincoln Memorial Dr., Milwaukee)

Cost: FREE admission

Harry Potter Birthday Party - Celebrate Harry Potter's birthday at the Zablocki Library with treats, games and Quidditch. Pre-registration required: 414-286-3055.

When: **Thurs., July 31**, 6:30-8:15 p.m.

Where: [Zablocki Library](#) (3501 W. Oklahoma Ave., Milwaukee)

Cost: FREE

Waukesha Old Car Club Show - Stroll through rows of classic cars lining the banks of Frame Park.

When: **Sun., Aug. 10**

Where: Frame Park, Waukesha

Cost: FREE

Harley-Davidson 105th Anniversary - Get a look at thousands of H-D motorcycles at the Milwaukee lakefront and downtown. More than 7,000 bikes will participate in a parade from Miller Park to the Summerfest Grounds on Saturday.

When: **Thurs., Aug. 28 - Sun., Aug. 31**

Where: Milwaukee

Cost: FREE for many activities

Global Union - Global music and cultural event, featuring artists from India, Russia, Cuba, Brazil, Iran, the Congo and Mali
When: **Sat., Sept. 13 - Sun, Sept. 14**, noon-7 p.m.
Where: Humboldt Park (S. Howell Ave. and Pine St., Milwaukee)
Cost: FREE

Milwaukee River Challenge - Help cheer on dozens of collegiate rowing teams from the area and across the country as they race their boats on the Milwaukee River.
When: **Sat., Sept. 20**, 9 a.m. start
Where: Milwaukee River, 25th and Canal to Pleasant St.
Cost: FREE

Fall Festival - Celebrate autumn with arts and crafts, entertainment and fun outdoors.
When: **Sat., Sept. 27**
Where: Urban Ecology Center (1500 E. Park Pl., Milwaukee)
Cost: FREE

Match Support Corner

In each *Big Update*, your Match Support Specialists -- Alison, Becky, Christina, Dan, Jill, Karina, Kelly, Kerry, Laura, Nicole, Stacy and Stephanie -- offer tips to make your match relationship great.

Get [more match advice](#) on our Web site under Mentoring Tools-Big Resources.

Q: My Little gets bored during summer vacation. Are there any inexpensive, safe activities I can suggest?

A: Milwaukee Recreation and public library programs provide free, supervised activities for kids and teens. Local museums and movie theaters offer free or reduced prices on certain weekdays, perfect for kids on summer vacation. To learn more, check out the list on our Web site, [Summer Activities for Littles](#).

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Please note: *Inclusion in the Big Update newsletter does not constitute an endorsement by Big Brothers Big Sisters of Metro Milwaukee or its staff. BBBS is not responsible for cancellations, changes or errors in dates, times or any other information regarding the events listed in the Big Update.*

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