

# NATIONAL CHILDREN'S museum

The National Children's Museum is scheduled to open in 2013 at National Harbor, but you can visit us every day at the *Launch Zone* at National Harbor! Here's what's happening this weekend:

**S**aturday, September 4, 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
*Insect Mania!*

If you like Cirque du Soleil's show "OVO," you'll love this hands-on journey into the creepy, crawly world of insects. Unearth the ecosystems where insects live and learn about their complex bodies during NCM's *Insect Mania!*

For more information or a full schedule of programs, visit [www.ncm.museum](http://www.ncm.museum).

*Launch Zone*  
112 Waterfront St.  
National Harbor, MD 20745

While we build our new home, here are a few more of our favorite places for families to visit!

scheduled to open in 2013,  
The National Children's  
Museum will be:

- A new and different concept—both onsite and online—devoted to inspiring children to care about and improve the world.
- A world-class, experiential Museum featuring fun and engaging exhibits for children ages 6 months to 12 years.
- An interactive, virtual community with games, e-zibits, resources, and safe opportunities to connect children around the world.
- A resource for parents, teachers, and others providing access to up-to-date information and a network of partners and service opportunities.
- A place to learn about and discuss national policy issues that affect the lives of children and families.
- A gateway that provides children with access to opportunities to get involved and make a difference both as individuals and members of their communities

we want to hear from you!

Let us know what you want to see and do at the new National Children's Museum. Visit us at [www.ncm.museum](http://www.ncm.museum) to share your feedback and sign up to receive our free e-newsletter.

NATIONAL  
CHILDREN'S  
museum

T 301.686.0225 F 202.675.4140 W [www.ncm.museum](http://www.ncm.museum)

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# TOP *presents the* 10 PICKS

• for the week of •

August 30, 2010

Every week, the National Children's Museum scouts the best family friendly activities in the Washington, DC region just for you!

PLEASE CONTACT individual organizations for information regarding costs, registration, and other special requirements for participation.

## 1 jug bay wetlands sanctuary

Offers more than 1,400 acres of tidal freshwater wetlands, forests, meadows, and is home to many birds, fish, reptiles, and mammals.

**Activities:** On August 31, Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary will present *Garden Club*. All ages are welcome to explore, help tend, and learn about the BayScape Garden and the Butterfly Garden. Participants need to bring work gloves, lunch or a snack, a refillable water bottle, hat and sun screen, and clothes and shoes that can get dirty. Registration is not required.

5702 Plummer Lane  
Lothian, MD 20711  
T 410.741.9330  
W [www.jugbay.org](http://www.jugbay.org)

## 2 puppet co. playhouse

Creates puppet theatre as an art form synthesizing the visual and performing arts.

**Activities:** *Little Red Riding Hood & the 3 Little Pigs* is now playing at the Puppet Co. Playhouse. This interactive, 40-minute production tells the classic fairytale from the perspective of a rapping Big Bad Wolf. Recommended for Pre-K through 6th grade, tickets cost \$10 and online registration is suggested.

Glen Echo Park  
7300 MacArthur Blvd.  
Glen Echo, MD 20812  
T 301.634.5380  
W [www.thepuppetco.org](http://www.thepuppetco.org)



## 3 old town farmers' market

One of the nation's oldest farmers' markets, located on King Street in Old Town Alexandria.

**Activities:** Open every Saturday morning from 5:30 to 10:30 a.m., the bustling Farmers' Market has been held in the same plaza since 1753. The Market sells fruits and vegetables from regional farms, baked goods, flowers, and handmade crafts.

Market Square/City Hall  
301 King St.  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
T 703.883.4686  
W [www.alexandriava.gov/FarmersMarket](http://www.alexandriava.gov/FarmersMarket)

## 4 accokeek foundation

A 200-acre National Park on the Potomac River in Accokeek, Md. that serves as an outdoor classroom for educational programs, research, and agricultural and conservation projects.

**Activities:** Regular attractions include the National Colonial Farm, the Ecosystem Farm, and Piscataway Park. There are also opportunities for visitors to learn about Maryland history, agriculture, and gardening, and enjoy wildlife, hiking trails, and fishing.

3400 Bryan Point Road  
Accokeek, MD 20607  
T 301.283.2113  
W [www.accokeek.org](http://www.accokeek.org)



## 5 cleveland park library

Library located in Northwest Washington, DC, several blocks from the Cleveland Park Metro station.

**Activities:** Every Wednesday at 10 a.m., Cleveland Park Library presents *Terrific Twos*. This story time is presented to keep two-year-olds interested and engaged. Registration is not required for this free program.

3310 Connecticut Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20008  
T 202.282.3080  
W [www.dclibrary.org](http://www.dclibrary.org)

## 6 rock creek nature center and planetarium

Large National Park with an educational center and planetarium serving as an astronomy laboratory.

**Activities:** Every Wednesday at 4 p.m., *Young Planetarium* at Rock Creek Park presents a show on the identification of major constellations. The show is free and appropriate for ages 5 to 7. The nearby Nature Center offers wildlife and forest exhibits, a library, a Discovery Room for hands-on activities, and a real observational beehive.

5200 Glover Road  
Washington, DC 20015  
T 292.895.6000  
W [www.nps.gov/rocr/index.htm](http://www.nps.gov/rocr/index.htm)



## 7 national geographic museum

Past and current expeditions, adventures, and scientific research come to life in a variety of exhibits.

**Activities:** Through October, families can explore the *Rare* exhibit. This gallery presents compelling photographs of endangered species against a dramatic solid black background. The exhibit and Museum are free and open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

1145 17th St., NW  
Washington, DC 20036  
T 202.857.7588  
W <http://events.nationalgeographic.com/events/locations/center/museum/>

## 8 albert einstein planetarium

Situated in the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum, the Planetarium uses state-of-the-art instruments and equipment.

**Activities:** The Planetarium invites families to a free showing of *One World, One Sky: Big Bird's Adventure*. Follow Sesame Street's Big Bird and Elmo as they explore the night sky with Hu Hu Zu, a Muppet from Zhima Jie, the Chinese co-production of Sesame Street. This 20-minute show is presented every Friday at 10:30 a.m.

Sixth Street and Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20560  
T 202.633.1000  
W [www.nasm.si.edu/visit/theaters/planetarium](http://www.nasm.si.edu/visit/theaters/planetarium)

## 9 rock creek park's old stone house

The oldest known private home in the nation's capital, built in the 18th century.

**Activities:** Families can learn about Colonial times by visiting the house and gardens and talking to the National Park Rangers on duty. Open seven days a week from noon to 5 p.m.

3545 Williamsburg Lane, NW  
Washington, DC 20008  
T 202.895.6070  
W [www.nps.gov/rocr](http://www.nps.gov/rocr)

## 10 oxon hill farm

A working Maryland farm that provides a variety of recreational activities to the public.

**Activities:** Oxon Hill Farm invites families to take a self-guided tour of the farm and visit farm animal favorites. The website offers several activity sheets to be printed out before a trip to the farm for an especially engaging visit. The Farm is open daily from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Admission is free.

6411 Oxon Hill Road  
Oxon Hill, MD 20745  
T 301.839.1177  
W [www.nps.gov/oxhi/index.htm](http://www.nps.gov/oxhi/index.htm)