

Summer Enrichment Opportunities

**Try to attend a weekday mass with your child at least once a month over the summer. The simplicity and quiet of the weekday mass is a wonderful prayer experience.

**Take your family to Starlight Theater for a production.

**Science city has some new exhibits.

**Union Station has the traveling First Ladies Exhibit.

**Preschool through Kindergarten

Plan small activities to assist their developing motor skills. Give your child a single hole punch and a piece of paper. Have them pull stickers from a sheet of stickers and create a sticker design on paper. Give them safe scissors to practice cutting. Let them sit next to you as you pay bills and give them a blank register and calculator to investigate with. Have fun with playdough or model magic. Clip clothespins onto the outside of a safe, clean coffee can and let them work on manipulating them on and off, or create a matching game by taping pictures to the rim of the can and individual clothespins for matching. Enjoy!

**Have you taken the KC Trolley Tour? If you want to enrich your children about the architecture and learn some interesting facts about their surrounding community, try it out. You may see and learn interesting things, too.

**Children 5 and older will enjoy the fun awaiting them at Kaleidescope.

**Let your kids be involved in gardening at your home!

For example, many plants such as tomatoes, herbs, peppers, and onions are easy to grow in containers. You can easily incorporate math skills into gardening! –especially measuring. Have your child chart the growth of the plants! It gives them a real sense of success and responsibility.

**Folks, if you are wanting to take a day trip and enjoy history, visit the Lincoln Presidential Library in Springfield, Illinois. It is awesome! It has interactive exhibits which would appeal to children of all ages. This would be especially meaningful for upcoming Fifth graders who learn about US History.

**Take an art walking tour through the Plaza to see the Spanish architecture. (Shopping optional). Be sure to pick up a brochure of the Plaza at the Plaza visitors office. The Plaza is the sister city of Seville, Spain.

**Summer reading incentives are offered through Barnes and Noble, Borders, and the Public Libraries.

**Read together 30 minutes each day. Choose selections from award winning authors like Mark Twain Nominees, Show Me Award Nominees, and Gateway Award Nominees.

****Visit the local Truman Library's mini Whitehouse exhibit.**

****Michael's hobby and craft store offers a variety of workshops from 1 to 2 hours.**

****Check out William Jewell's summer camps: Tennis, Soccer, and Basketball.**

****Don't forget about the Nelson Art Gallery! Visit the Gallery and enjoy a delicious lunch!**

****Let your child paint with watercolors their own picture. Then, write a story about it.**

****Use brain games as you drive down the road. Depending on the age of your child, practice counting, locating letters, words, hunting for state license plates, practice math facts, alphabetizing, repeating number sequences, matching colors, etc.**

****Walk and bike together along the city trails.**

****Create one evening each week dedicated to Family Game Night. Games provide many learning opportunities for children. The kids will enjoy rotating favorite board games and more to play together. Discover new ones together as well!**

****Creative Kitchen**

Pick a recipe to make together. Make a list of ingredients needed. Shop and read the labels. Let the child read the recipe and measure the ingredients.

Pick a fun place to eat the creation!

****Math Fact Marathon**

Spend one hour a week on www.multiplication.com