

# THE CITY SPEAKS

A PARENT NEWSLETTER BY DISTRICT 75 SPEECH-LANGUAGE PROVIDERS

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## Making Summer Social

This year's focus has been on parents as partners in creating environments and opportunities for social interactions. Summertime is a perfect opportunity to get your child outdoors and take part in the various events New York City has to offer. Exposing your child to other children and adults is imperative for their communication. Your interactions with others will serve as a model for appropriate social behaviors. We understand how difficult it might be to take your child out due to various behaviors, but by modeling the correct behavior and having the necessary tools (i.e. communication boards, reinforcements, positive feedback) you create an opportunity for a more successful, positive outing.

## Sixty Days of Summer...what to do???

Below is a list of suggestions for various events and activities that you can do with your child around New York City. Some of the activities mentioned below are free, while others come at a cost. **Please be advised, before committing to any of the activities mentioned, check dates, times, locations and fees.**

Brooklyn	Manhattan	Staten Island
60: Prospect Park Zoo	40:Gazillion Bubble Show	20: Take a ride on the Staten Island Ferry
59: Luna Park in Coney Island	39: Children's Museum of Manhattan	19: Go cheer for the Staten Island Yankees
58: Attend a Brooklyn Cyclones baseball game	38: Bryant Park	18: Staten Island Zoo
57: Pirate themed treasure hunt in Fort Greene Park	37: Central Park Zoo	17: Staten Island Children's museum
56: Puppetworks Theater in Park Slope	36: Harry Potter Exhibit (Times Square)	16: Silver Lake Park
55: Red Hook ball fields, street food haven	35: Madame Tussauds Wax Museum	15: New Dorp Beach
54: Brooklyn Children's Museum	34: Street Fairs	14: Chelsea Playground
53: Paint your own pottery at the Painted Pot (Carroll Gardens & Bay Ridge)	33: Sightseeing cruise on the Circle Line	13: Carousel For All Children (Greenbelt Park)
52: Madd Fun, family entertainment center (303 Stanley Ave.)	32: Miniature golf and biking on Governor's Island	12: Showplace Entertainment Bowling Center
51: The New York Aquarium in Coney Island	31: Empire State Building	11: Botanical Gardens
	<b>Queens</b>	<b>Miscellaneous Ideas</b>
<b>Bronx</b>	30: Swimming at Astoria Park	10: Family and friends baseball game
50: New York Botanical Gardens	29: Horseback riding in Forest Park	9: Barbeques
49: The Bronx Zoo	28: Green Meadows Farm	8: Picnic
48: Family art project in Wave Hill	27: Hall of Science	7: Make and sell lemonade
47: Yankee game	26: Flushing Meadows Park	6: Fly a kite
46: Van Cortland Park	25: Bowling at Jib Lanes	5: Sidewalk chalk
45: Orchard Beach	24: Kids Fun House (Ridgewood)	4: Arts & Crafts projects (for ideas go to <a href="http://www.dltk-kids.com">www.dltk-kids.com</a> or <a href="http://www.crayola.com">www.crayola.com</a> )
44: Whitestone Multiplex	23: Cunningham Park & Tennis Center	3: Library
43: Bronx Museum	22: Playground for All Children	2: Make ice pops
42: PT Amusement	21: Museum of the Moving Image	1: Plant flowers or vegetables
41: Crotona Play Center		

A number of parks were suggested around the five boroughs. To make the trip more interactive, it might be a good idea to assemble a kit of equipment to take with you such as a Frisbee, water balloons, jump rope, ball, bubbles, etc. Whatever you decide to do over the summer, be sure to give your child as many opportunities as possible to communicate and interact with others. And remember **HAVE FUN!!!**

Dear CITY SPEAKS,

I am the parent of a ten year old girl who gets bored easily. She will be attending the Chapter 683 Summer Program. However, I am concerned on what to do once the program is over. What are some activities that I can do with my daughter on the weekends and at the end of the summer program?

Summer Parent

Dear Summer Parent,

The summer time provides an excellent opportunity to take local trips. Take local trips with the whole family to encourage communication. You and your child will have fun exploring new places during the summer. Places of interest include:

- Local restaurants: Enjoy a meal with your child at a local restaurant. Prepare pictures of the available food choices or discuss the choices ahead of time. Allow your child to have the opportunity to order her own food from the waitress. In addition, have your child pay the bill and wait for the change.
- Many of New York City's attractions offer activities for children of all ages. Consider visiting the Children's Museum of the Arts, New York Hall of Science, New York City Fire Museum, the Brooklyn Aquarium, the Bronx Zoo, and various neighborhood parks. *Please note: many of these attractions offer free admission and events on certain dates. Please check with the place of interest for more information.*
- AMC movie theatres have partnered up with the Autism Society. Please visit [www.autism-society.org](http://www.autism-society.org) for information.
- The following websites will provide you with information on daily free activities around New York City.  
[www.freeinnyc.net](http://www.freeinnyc.net)      <http://timeoutnewyorkkids.com/>



### Joke Time

Q: What did the pig say at the beach on a hot summer's day?  
A: I'm bacon!



Knock, Knock!  
Who's there?  
Summer.  
Summer who?  
Summer here and some are there.



### PLANNING FOR SUMMER

There are several options available for your child:

Chapter 683 for D75 programs begins July 6<sup>th</sup> and ends August 15<sup>th</sup>.

There are also a variety of summer camps available for children with special needs. Summer camp programs provide opportunities for socializing and making new friends, increasing self-confidence, engaging in new situations, learning new skills, participating in organized sports and play activities, improving social and emotional development and of course, getting to be outdoors!

**Contact your school's parent coordinator &/or guidance counselor for more information on local camps.**

To find additional listings for a day or sleep away camp that meets your child's specific needs, refer to:

- Resources for Children with Special Needs - [www.resourcesnycdatabase.org](http://www.resourcesnycdatabase.org) (212) 677-4650.
- Camp Chatter Box-[www.campchatterbox.org](http://www.campchatterbox.org) (908) 301-5451

### SUMMER SEARCH

L L R G N L D A F F B  
 L V E C R I O L H I A  
 A A P M M A O O I R R  
 B C S U O W S E P E B  
 E A H U E N L S H W E  
 S T H R N C A A Z O C  
 A I S O I N Z D O R U  
 B O I S T Y Y U E K E  
 X N P T S U G U A S C  
 Z O B E A C H J U L Y  
 P L G J U N E P A R K

AUGUST BARBECUE BASEBALL BEACH FIREWORKS  
 FLOWERS GRASS HAZY HOT HUMID JULY JUNE  
 LEMONADE PARK POOL POPSICLE  
 SUNNY VACATION

## Give Me 20

Give Me Twenty! is a flexible, suggested list of words that can be used in an enormous variety of situations. Beginning with this core list gives students control over what they say, when they say it, and inspires them to use their voices in the same joyous, collaborative way we all do: to connect to those around us. For more information please visit: [www.vimeo.com/D75](http://www.vimeo.com/D75) (click on videos) and [http://schools.nyc.gov/Offices/District75/Departments/Technology/AssistiveAdaptive/at\\_forms.htm](http://schools.nyc.gov/Offices/District75/Departments/Technology/AssistiveAdaptive/at_forms.htm)

I 	want 	more 	yes 
no 	bathroom 	you 	need 
Wow! 	help 	here 	there 
me 	do 	stop 	finished 
good 	bad 	hi 	goodbye 

If you have any questions or topics that you would like us to address, please send an e-mail to: or [BMandel6@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:BMandel6@schools.nyc.gov)  
Newsletter Prepared by: Asia Jordan, Sara Leifer, Michelle Vladimirov, Jessica Zaccaro and Betsy Mandel-Speech Supervisor.