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& Language in Children**

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A 2022 cover kid winner, Hannah played the star role in her school's musical, serves on the student council and plays flute in the band. She also loves swimming, gaming and golf. Photo by Karen Andrews at Jordan Ashley Photography.

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## 8 Pint-sized Pursuits: Enrichment Activities for the Preschool Crowd

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## EDITOR'S NOTE

ANNETTE LUCKSINGER

*Lucksinger is a mom of two and author of the guidebook and app "Exploring Austin With Kids."*

This month, I am at a loss for words – not a good thing for an editor! This issue marks my last with Austin Family. As I look back over my time spent with the magazine, it strikes me what a strong, vibrant community Austin is for raising kids.

I will miss all of the wonderful writers and the publisher who I have had the pleasure to work with as they shared expert tips to make the lives of our families happier, fuller and healthier.

It has been inspiring to see all of the work that goes into building a strong community for young Austinites. Every day, my inbox is filled with emails from

organizations and businesses, sharing information on classes, camps, events, books and resources designed to engage our kids. They stretch across cultures, means, abilities, interests, areas of town and ages.

The current issue highlights this expansiveness with the theme of "generations." Articles span from preschool enrichment to having "the talk" from the toddler years to teens. In honor of Grandparents' Day, our Family Matters column offers advice to keep generations of family close-knit.

Austin is also a playful city. Check out the event calendar that includes family-friendly festivals and events, from Viva México and bilingual storytimes to babytimes and baseball games. Don't forget Museum Day this month, too, when visitors can scope out area museums free of charge. (See our Museum Day guide for locations.)

Enjoy, Austin! I will see you out there.

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# Austin IN ACTION

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## Winning Pitch

A local Westlake High School business incubator team was one of two teams selected for funding at a recent national pitch competition in Chicago. The team created an app with the intent to increase patient safety and reduce medicinal risks. The PharmAssist app provides reminders to take medicine, checks for proper dosage and interactions with other medications, and offers ways to connect with family and caretakers.

The team was awarded up to \$10,000 with the condition that they raise a matching amount on their own. Rising Westlake seniors Andrew Depwe, Zach Edens, Mason Mireur, Amaan Rumi, Parker Steen and Megan Swett have already been approached by a healthcare company wanting to provide additional funding.

The Westlake High School Business Incubator is a rigorous entrepreneurial class that has allowed students to form numerous businesses. In the program, students acquire foundational business concepts, then apply those concepts to their team's new business ideas. From concept to minimum viable product to pitch, students hypothesize, test, iterate, learn and improve while working as a team.



Westlake High School students receive funding at a national competition for their app, PharmAssist.

## Car Seat Check-up

During Baby Safety Month, Ascension Seton will be holding a car seat check-up event at their Southwest location on Saturday, September 24. A certified child passenger safety technician will check your car seat for recalls, make sure it is the right fit for your child and check installation in your vehicle. No appointment is needed.

The event is being held in collaboration with Safe Kids Austin, Dell Children's Medical Center and H.E.B. It will run from 9 a.m. to noon.



A car seat check-up will be held on September 24. Photo courtesy Ascension Seton.

## Scholarship Recipients

The organization Con Mi MADRE (Mothers and Daughters Raising Expectations) helps encourage young Latinas to graduate from high school, enroll in college and successfully earn college degrees, while also recognizing the importance of parental engagement. To date, over 3,000 mother-daughter teams have been assisted on their journey to and through post-secondary education.

This year, over \$80,000 in scholarships have been awarded. Recently, Meta contributed \$10,000 to create a new scholarship fund, named "Build Awesome Things." Five grant recipients were selected: Karyme Alejos, Darlene Ledesma, Laura Ixel Aguilar, Maria Ayla Ortiz and Melly Perez.

## Things To Celebrate

All Month  
Baby Safety Month

September 11th  
Grandparents' Day

September 25th  
National Daughter's Day

The next Con Mi MADRE scholarship application will open early 2023.



Class of 2022 scholarship recipients pose with the executive director of Con Mi MADRE.

## Immersive Light Installation

Highly-acclaimed British artist Bruce Munro's "Field of Light" will debut on September 9 at the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center. Covering 16 acres, the display illuminates the Wildflower Center's natural landscape with 28,000 stemmed spheres lit by solar powered fiber-optics. The exhibit showcases the intersection of art, technology and nature.

Bruce Munro is best known for large-

scale, light-based artworks, which have been displayed in special exhibitions in galleries, parks, grand estates, cathedrals, botanical gardens and museums around the globe.

Tickets for the event are on sale now. The exhibit will run through December with a portion of the proceeds benefiting the Wildflower Center.



*The Field of Light exhibit at the Wildflower Center opens on September 9. Photo credit Serena Monroe.*

### Lake Travis Cleanup

The 28th Annual Lake Travis Cleanup will take place on Sunday, September 11, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Founded in 1995 by a group of divers, the Lake Travis Cleanup is the largest scuba diving and shoreline cleanup in Texas. More than 1,000 volunteers will remove and



### COLORADO RIVER ALLIANCE

recycle trash from the waters and along the shores of Lake Travis. All ages are welcome to participate.

The cleanup celebrates the importance of the Colorado River to our community. At the same time, it helps raise awareness of the fact that "trash travels," emphasizing the importance of keeping the Highland Lakes healthy and clean.

All volunteers receive an event t-shirt and a virtual swag bag with coupons and discounts for local eateries and shops around the lake. Registration is now open at [laketraviscleanup.org](http://laketraviscleanup.org).

### Improving Youth Mental Health

More than 40% of teenagers state that they struggle with persistent feelings of sadness or hopelessness, and more than half of parents and caregivers express concern over their children's mental well-being. In response to the

current youth mental health crisis, the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act was recently passed, which will invest \$1 billion over the next five years in mental health support in our schools.

New programs will increase awareness and access to mental health supports for school-aged youth. Funding will also help increase the number of mental health professionals working in schools. Additionally, training will be expanded for pediatric providers and first responders in the prevention, treatment and referral of services for mental and behavioral health conditions. The 9-8-8 suicide and crisis lifeline will also be enhanced to better support youth in suicidal crisis or emotional distress.

A variety of activities will receive support that improve conditions for student learning and create positive school climates, including extracurricular, after-school and summer programs with a focus on reengaging youth. In addition, the Department of Education will offer grants for programs that build relationships between students and educators in ways that help students feel less isolated and more connected to their school with the intent to improve their overall mental health and well-being.



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# Play it **SAFE** product recalls

## Government Recalls Swings & Rockers, Tents & Playhouses and Pajamas

The Manhattan Toy Company has About two million **MamaRoo swings** and 220,000 **RockaRoo rockers** have been recalled by the company 4moms. When the swing or rocker is not in use, its restraint straps can dangle below the seat.



Non-occupant crawling infants can become entangled in the straps, posing entanglement and strangulation hazards. One death and two entanglement incidents have been reported with the swing. These items were sold at BuyBuy Baby and Target stores nationwide in addition to 4moms.com and amazon.com from January 2010 through August 2022 for between \$160 and \$250. Caretakers with infants who can crawl should immediately stop using the products and place them in an area beyond the reach of crawling infants. Consumers should contact 4moms immediately to register for a free strap fastener.

Epoch Everlasting Play is recalling over 250,000 **tents** and **playhouses** that fail to meet federal flammability standards. The recall includes Kidoozie Ice Castle Tents, King Size Medieval Castles, My Clubhouses, Pirate Den Playhouses, Pop Up Theater Tents, Princess Hideaway Playhouses and Royal Castle Playhouses. They were sold at Target, Marshalls, Barnes & Noble, Toys R Us and other independent toy stores as well as online at amazon.com, zulily.com and fatbraintoy.com. The items were available from March 2014 through March 2022 for between \$30 and \$35. Consumers should immediately stop using the products and contact the company for a full refund or free replacement product.



Kids Tales has issued a recall for about 9,000 **children's pajamas**.

The recalled items fail to meet the flammability standards for children's sleepwear, posing a risk of burn injuries to children. They were sold exclusively at amazon.com in various print designs and colors from November 2021 through April 2022. The cost ranged from \$13 to \$30, depending on whether they were packaged individually or as a set of two. Consumers are advised to take the sleepwear away from children and contact Kids Tales for a full refund.



*The US Consumer Products Safety Commission works to protect the public from unreasonable risks of serious injury or death from more than 15,000 types of consumer products.*

## AFM 2022 Young Writers Contest

# If I Ruled the WORLD!

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Go to [www.austinfamily.com](http://www.austinfamily.com) for rules and to enter.

*Judged by authors from the Young Writers & Illustrators Guild*



Carmen Oliver



Bethany Hegedus



# Pint-sized Pursuits: Enrichment Activities for the Preschool Crowd

*“Everything you do is a learning activity for preschoolers.”*

Providing extracurricular activities for preschoolers can encourage their natural curiosity and love of learning. It can also help them develop important skills like self-awareness, social development, language and motor skills.

There are countless classes and programs available for your child that are both fun and educational, but which activity is right for your child?

## **Team sports**

Team sports help kids with their social development, as well as problem-solving skills. Being part of a team also gives kids a sense of confidence as they have the opportunity to cheer each other on and contribute to the common goal. “Soccer seems to be a good place to start. It gets them used to the idea of team sports,” says Kara Thomas, mom and preschool teacher. Another preschool-friendly team sport is T-ball. Team sports are a good fit for children who love physical activity and socializing with other kids.

## **Art Projects**

An art class provides the opportunity for kids to create, make messes and try crafts that their parents may not want to try at home such as painting, sculpture and papier-mache. Art helps develop eye-hand coordination and fine motor skills. It also encourages kids to explore different colors and textures, while encouraging their creativity. Kids who are introverted, creative and able to sit still for longer periods of time would enjoy taking an art class.

## **Music and dance**

Preschool kids love to listen to music and dance. There are many programs available that offer enrichment in music where kids are encouraged to sing, make their own music and use their bodies to express themselves through dance. Many dance studios offer beginner classes for the preschool crowd. The study of music and dance helps kids develop language and gross motor skills. It has also been shown to improve math and reading skills down the line. Music classes are a good fit for most preschoolers. For kids who are naturally drawn to

music and movement in particular, look into music classes specifically geared towards preschool children.

### Preschool and play groups

Traditional preschool exposes children to many different types of enrichment, such as art, music, games, cooperative play, drama and pretend play. At the same time, it develops their social and language skills. While preschool may provide a well-rounded enrichment experience, it may not be a good fit for some families due to schedules or finances. Play groups are another great way to expose children to many types of enrichment experiences while giving them the social aspect that many preschools provide.

### Individual sports

"I think dance or tumbling is a really good first organized activity for kids," says Angela Leever, mom of three and preschool special education teacher. "You want to make sure you get them into an activity where the instructors are used to working with young children and their expectations are age-appropriate." Gymnastics, swimming and martial arts are great activities for little ones to try because they work on core strength and confidence. Kids who love to be active and are even a little daring do well in these types of individual sports.

The wonderful thing about preschool enrichment is that there are several local programs and opportunities. There are countless chances to expose your kids to learning at home as well. "We are really into gardening right now. My son waters the plants every night and helps pull weeds. It has been a great learning experience for him," says Katlyn Purkapile, mom of two. Kids can learn by helping with chores around the house, attending local library presentations and exploring all the parks and museums that Austin has to offer. Mother of two Stephanie Pratt, whose children like to cook with her, notes, "Everything you do is a learning activity for preschoolers."

Get creative, make learning fun and allow your child to explore new things both in organized programs and at home.

---

#### SARAH LYONS

*Lyons is a freelance writer and mom of six children. She enjoys reading, cooking and spending time outside with her family.*

## Preschool Enrichment at Home

You do not have to spend a fortune on classes to give your kids great enrichment experiences. Here are some ideas to incorporate at home or explore in your community:

**Self-awareness** - dress up, cook, have kids help with chores and gardening

**Social development** - host playdates, explore the city, go on a scavenger hunt

**Language** - sing, read and use cooperative play

**Gross motor** - visit a park, play in the backyard, create an obstacle course using household objects, have a family dance party

**Fine motor** - create a sensory bin, play with puzzles or blocks, allow your kids to draw and practice with scissors

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# Toddler to Tween: “The Talk”



## THE Learning curve

ALISON BOGLE

*Bogle is a writer living in Austin with her husband and three children. A former fourth grade teacher, she now enjoys writing about children and education. You can also catch her talking about articles from Austin Family magazine each Thursday morning on FOX 7 Austin.*

My official childhood education on puberty came from the mandatory fifth grade school presentation when they separated the boys from the girls. What I thought of as the “real” education came from my friends sharing (often wildly-inaccurate) information picked up from older siblings and other friends. What I ended up with as I experienced this rite of passage was a mishmash of semi-facts that I was left to muddle my way through. It was an extremely common experience for my generation.

Determined to arm my kids with the truth and to somehow make talking about puberty less cringe-inducing (on

all our parts), I dug into researching the best way to go about it. I knew I wanted my kids to have accurate information, rather than the hearsay of friends, and I also wanted to communicate our family values around this business of becoming an adult.

### Start young

The best place to begin is by using the proper names for body parts. Somehow it is easier to use the correct words with a young child than to finally begin to use them with a 12-year-old. Children will have no embarrassment associated with those words if they have simply grown up using them. It is also important that children be able to discuss their physical health with a doctor or other trusted adult and be properly understood, which is trickier if we use cutesy nicknames for body parts.

We might not realize it, but kids are exposed to the birds and the bees from a very young age. I vividly remember a zoo visit where my three-year-old son spotted turtles “wrestling.” When my oldest daughter was three, I would have left it at “wrestling” and called it a bullet dodged. However, at that point, I realized

I could use the moment to correct his interpretation.

### Keep it simple

Consider what you share and tailor it to your child’s age. In the turtle example, the conversation looked like: “Actually, those turtles are making a baby. It takes a part from a boy turtle, called sperm, and a part from a girl turtle, called an egg, to make a baby.” I said it matter-of-factly and kept it short and simple. My son took it in, nodded, and turned back to watch the turtles, leaving me to quietly sigh in relief at how this new approach could work.

As your child ages, gradually expand the level of detail and information you provide, so that by the time he reaches that fifth grade presentation, he has already heard it all; and, better yet, so that by the time he hears playground misinformation – and that comes younger than you would think – he has the knowledge to accurately filter what he hears.

What if your child is in middle or high school and you still haven’t had a single conversation about puberty and

growing up? It's truly never too late! Kids often carry misinformation – even at that age – that you can help them sort out. And, as they get older, the conversation also becomes about your values, consent and how you hope they will approach their sexual health.

### Don't give up

Your child may push back when you bring up puberty, but don't give up! Bring it up again and again. Offer to talk for only three minutes at a time. Most kids can handle the idea of listening to something, even something super awkward, for just three minutes. This is a subject best handled as a series of conversations over many years, so if at first you don't succeed, try, try again. The more you talk about it with your child, the more comfortable everyone will become.

### Talking tips

If the awkwardness doesn't abate, here are some ways you can meet your child where she is while still getting the important information across:

Talk in the car or on a walk –it's not easy for your child to physically bail on your talk in the car or on a walk and the natural disruption of eye contact can help everyone feel more at ease.

Provide age-appropriate books – There are so many fantastic books about changing bodies and sexual health. Purchase a few for your child and include a note saying you are open to discussing any thoughts or questions she might have. Be sure to follow up instead of leaving it to her to come to you.

Start a journal – Purchase a spiral-bound notebook as a way to communicate. Start with sharing a fact or two and ask what questions this brings up. It can be easier for children to put their worries or questions down on paper, rather than asking directly.

Enlist a trusted adult – Some kids find it easier to talk to an aunt, uncle or family friend. Help facilitate a discussion and let your trusted adult know exactly what information and values you would like communicated.

Name your feelings – Share that you're feeling embarrassed, awkward, silly or whatever your feelings might be. It helps to normalize your child's feelings. Stress that, although you feel embarrassed,

you value your child having important and accurate information about his own body, so you're going to push through to hold a conversation. It helps your child to follow your lead.

Keep it light – Although the subject is important, it doesn't have to be heavy. Leave room for laughter to lighten the mood.

You thought you left the awkwardness of puberty behind, but like many parts of childhood, now you get to relive the experience through your own child. Good times! What a gift we can give our children, though, for them to know that they have a trusted adult to whom they can come to for accurate information. It makes all of the cringe-worthy moments worth it!



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[www.scottishritetheater.org](http://www.scottishritetheater.org)

### SWITCH WILLO STABLES

North Austin  
512-920-2276  
[www.switchwillo.com](http://www.switchwillo.com)

### SYNERGY DANCE STUDIO

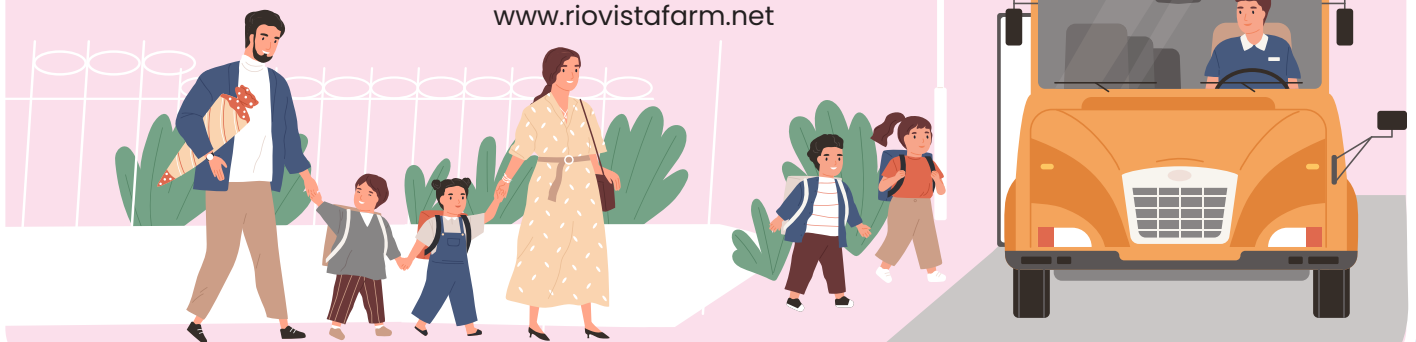
West Austin  
512-327-4130  
[www.synergydancestudio.com](http://www.synergydancestudio.com)

### YMCA AUSTIN

5 Austin locations, Bastrop, Buda, Dripping Springs, Kyle  
512-730-9622  
[www.austinyymca.org](http://www.austinyymca.org)

### YMCA CENTRAL TEXAS

Burnet, Georgetown, Hutto, Leander, Liberty Hill, Round Rock, Waco, Gateway  
512-246-9622  
[www.ymcaactx.org](http://www.ymcaactx.org)



# THE GUIDE

## BIRTHDAY PARTIES

### DANCE DISCOVERY

Central, North  
512-419-7611, 512-658-2996  
[www.dancediscovery.com](http://www.dancediscovery.com)

### IDEA LAB

North Austin  
512-494-6744  
[www.austin.idealabkids.com](http://www.austin.idealabkids.com)

### JUMP! GYMNASTICS

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512-593-6226  
[www.jump-austin.com](http://www.jump-austin.com)

### MAD SCIENCE

Locations throughout Austin  
and San Antonio  
512-892-1143  
[www.austin.madscience.org](http://www.austin.madscience.org)

### MASTER GOHRING

Central Austin  
512-879-7553  
[www.mastergohring.com](http://www.mastergohring.com)

### PLAYLAND SKATE CENTER

North Austin  
512-452-1901  
[www.playlandskatecenter.com](http://www.playlandskatecenter.com)

### SWEET BERRY FARM

Marble Falls  
830-798-1462  
[www.sweetberryfarm.com](http://www.sweetberryfarm.com)

### YMCA AUSTIN

5 Austin locations, Bastrop,  
Buda, Dripping Springs, Kyle  
512-730-9622  
[www.austinyymca.org](http://www.austinyymca.org)



## FARMS

### MAMA MARY'S FARM AND PUMPKIN PATCH

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[www.mamamarysfarm.com](http://www.mamamarysfarm.com)

### SWEET BERRY FARM

Marble Falls  
830-798-1462  
[www.sweetberryfarm.com](http://www.sweetberryfarm.com)



## PARENT RESOURCES

### PARTNERS IN PARENTING

Class locations vary, check  
out QR code in ad (p.24)  
[www.pipaustin.org](http://www.pipaustin.org)

### ROUND ROCK SERVING CENTER

Round Rock  
512-244-2431  
[www.rrasc.org](http://www.rrasc.org)

### SUSTAINABLE FOOD CENTER

East Austin  
[www.sfcfarmersmarket.org](http://www.sfcfarmersmarket.org)



# 6 Myths About Speech and Language in Children



## LIFELINES

LEANNE SHERRERD

*Sherred, M.S., CCC-SLP, is the president and chief clinical officer of Expressable. Based in Austin, Sherred oversees over 60 talented speech therapists who work with children around the country.*

If you're concerned about your child's speech, you've probably done some research – and chances are, you've also gotten some advice (solicited or not) from friends and family. There is a lot of information out there, some of which is misguided or just plain wrong.

As a speech-language pathologist, I find it important to provide evidence-based education to help parents make decisions about their child's care. To that end, here are some common myths about speech therapy and how children develop speech and language.

**Myth #1: Children will outgrow their speech or language delay, so it's best to wait and see.**

It's true that every child develops on a different timeline. About 70% to 80% of children who are "late bloomers" will eventually catch up to their peers. But what about the 20% to 30% who don't? Delays in speech and language may point to a cognitive or developmental issue. These delays can lead to difficulty socializing, participating in school, learning to read and more. That's why a "wait and see" approach isn't always the right choice. Speech and language skills build upon one another. So, the longer intervention is delayed, the more a child can fall behind. Getting a speech evaluation can help you determine the best course of action.

**Myth #2: Teaching babies how to sign will stunt their language growth.**

You may worry that if your baby learns signs to communicate, he will be less likely to learn to talk. Not true! Before children say their first words, they use other forms of communication to express themselves, such as crying and pointing. Teaching your baby simple

signs enables him to easily express wants and needs before he is able to talk. As a child's imitation of sounds and words increases, these gestures typically fade away.

Bonus: Often, the more tools children have to communicate, the less frustrated they will be. Wouldn't you rather your child gesture "all done" than throw her applesauce on the floor?

**Myth #3: Learning two languages at once can cause a speech delay.**

This is a common myth, especially as more children grow up in households with multiple languages. The fact is, research shows that raising your child in a bilingual household, or teaching him more than one language, does not cause a speech or language delay. It actually offers lots of benefits, from cognitive advantages to greater social skills.

This myth is likely rooted in the common practice of "code switching," which happens when people mix words from two languages in the same sentence.



Children learn language by mimicking those around them. They also have a limited bank of vocabulary and will often “select” a word from the other language to express their thoughts. This isn’t a delay at all – it’s actually quite resourceful, as the child tries to figure out which word is right for the circumstance.

#### **Myth #4: Screen time doesn’t affect your child’s speech and language development.**

Phones, tablets and TVs are part of modern life, and they’re not going anywhere. When it comes to screen time, moderation is the key.

The negative effects of passive screen time on speech and language development have been well documented. One study in particular surveyed the effects of media exposure on more than 1,000 toddlers under two years old. Researchers found a strong correlation between media consumption and language development; the more videos that toddlers watched, the fewer words they knew or said. Another study showed that the more time children spent using handheld screens, the more likely they were to develop a speech delay.

For guidance on using screens in a positive way with your child, the American Academy of Pediatrics suggests making it as engaging and interactive as possible. Try to consume media with your children, instead of simply sticking them in front of a TV. Talk about what he is seeing, ask questions and make connections between your child’s life and the events on the screen.

#### **Myth #5: Teenagers are too old for speech therapy.**

False! Speech therapy helps people of all ages. Teens receive speech therapy for many reasons, such as:

- Articulation, or learning to correctly pronounce sounds such as /s/ and /r/
- Stuttering
- Receptive language problems, which might show up as trouble following directions or understanding questions
- Expressive language problems, such as difficulty constructing sentences or recounting events
- Pragmatics, or the social aspect of

communication, such as maintaining eye contact during a conversation, staying on topic and understanding figurative language.

#### **Myth #6: Speech therapy is more effective in person than online.**

Speech therapy works best when caregivers are actively involved in their child’s progress. Learning speech and language is like learning any other skill: it requires practice. Your speech therapist should provide you with the coaching, strategies and activities you need to keep practicing with your child

between sessions. For this reason, the place where speech therapy is delivered is much less important than how it is delivered.

Online speech therapy is preferred by many families. Teletherapy eliminates travel times; provides quality treatment in a child’s home, where they feel most comfortable; and allows families to easily participate in sessions at times that are convenient for them. Plus, many studies have shown that online speech therapy is just as effective in helping children reach their communication goals.

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\*IDEA-EG on 2021 STAAR results

# How Can I Maintain a Close Relationship With My Grandchildren?



## FAMILY MATTERS

BETTY RICHARDSON

*Richardson, PhD, RN, CS, LPC, LMFT, is an Austin-based psychotherapist.*

**Q** Our son Travis and his wife Lisa have two beautiful kids that my husband and I adore.

The problem for me is Lisa. She does things that I don't like such as bringing her big dogs into our house and feeding them off of our plates. I have a fear of dogs, so I don't like them in the house. She's made it clear that I either put up with the dogs or she won't let the children come to our house. There have been a few times when I have told her how I feel about an issue, and she has kept the children away from us for a few weeks. I don't understand why my son goes along with her. What, if anything, can we do about having to do everything Lisa wants in order to continue seeing our grandchildren?

VISIT [austinfamily.com](http://austinfamily.com)  
¿Cómo puedo permanecer cerca de mis nietos?

**A** You're not alone in your fear of losing access to grandchildren. In my therapy practice I see grandparents experiencing similar fears. I also work with grandparents who have lost contact with their grandchildren for years. Grandparents can lose favor with children and spouses over a range of issues, such as religious decisions, which schools to attend or discipline practices.

You ask why your daughter-in-law sometimes keeps the grandchildren from you if you don't go along with what she wants. One possible cause involves a narcissistic parent. What is most important to that person is much more important than what you want. Here we are not diagnosing Lisa but just saying that's a possibility. Regarding your son's reaction, it could be the case that a parent sometimes holds the other parent hostage with similar fears of divorce or of losing the children.

In your situation, I offer these ideas to improve relations with your daughter-in-law that may benefit the entire family:

**1. Look for compromise** instead of dwelling on the thought that your daughter-in-law is unreasonable and needs to change. For example, it might be a nice gesture to buy some nice dog bowls for the dogs to eat and drink from instead of your plates. Perhaps you could say something like: "I hope you don't mind that I got the dogs these special bowls. I saw them and I just couldn't resist."

**2. Look for ways to keep your son and daughter-in-law happy** with

you. Instead of worrying about how unreasonable one or both are, focus on doing and saying nice things for and to them. This shift can change the dynamic and create conditions for cultivating a better relationship.

**3. Consider meeting on more neutral territory with the family** – a park or café, for example – until you can find some common ground.

**4. Avoid taking sides** with either your son or daughter-in-law.

**5. Develop a close relationship with your grandchildren when you see them.** If they enjoy the visits with you, they will likely ask to see you if their parents start to shut off their visits.

**6. See a therapist for help** to learn additional ways to deal with your son and daughter-in-law. In your case, you could also work to stop your fear of dogs.

Grandparents' rights vary from state to state. What I find in my research is that in none of the 50 states do grandparents have an absolute legal right to see their grandchildren. The law tends to protect parents' rights to decide what is best for their children.

So, consider how important your grandchildren are to you and what you are willing to do to keep that access. Keep in mind that your daughter-in-law and son are the gatekeepers to that access. Your relationship with them is as important as the relationship with the grandchildren.



**FALL FESTIVAL**  
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# TEN YEARS OF DANIEL TIGER

This month marks the tenth anniversary of the debut of "Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood," the offshoot of "Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood," which itself ran for 31 seasons. Taken together, that's 41 years of gentle, friendly programming, a constant safe haven throughout much of television history.

This past summer, we reached out to teens and tweens to have honest conversations about their screen use. The good news is that these kids are tremendously well-informed about the world, largely through their social media feeds. They seemed receptive to the idea of fact-checking information that catches their attention, not simply accepting what pops up on their feeds as "truth." (It helped greatly that we asked media-savvy peers to share their fact-checking steps, rather than tell them how we adults do it.)

In the spirit of Daniel Tiger and Mr. Rogers, I will continue to share good news: we were surprised by how many of these kids

continue to turn to "nice" programs like "Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood," "Arthur," and "Curious George." They tend to use these programs as a respite from other media, a chance to decompress after the school day, and even a bit of what I would call a healthy, temporary regression to earlier times.

This idea of carving time out for pure niceness is not a bad idea for all of us. I invite you, inspired by today's sophisticated teenagers, to take some time for nice, and see what it does for you.



**SMART  
SCREEN  
TIME**

**BENJAMIN KRAMER**  
*Kramer, PhD, is the director of education for Austin PBS.*



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# September 2022 calendar

Go to [austinfamily.com](http://austinfamily.com) for expanded listings.

Any family-friendly events can be posted at [austinfamily.com](http://austinfamily.com) and will be made live once approved. Certain restrictions apply.

## Thu 1

**Starry Night at Girlstart.** 5:30-7 p.m. Girlstart's STEM studio and mini planetarium is a unique space for families to explore astronomy. Girlstart STEM Center, 1400 W. Anderson Lane. FREE. [girlstart.org](http://girlstart.org).

**Round Rock Express vs Oklahoma City Dodgers.** 6:35 p.m. Dell Diamond, 3400 E. Palm Valley Blvd. \$8 and up. [milb.com](http://milb.com).

## Fri 2

**CONTINUED:** Round Rock Express vs Oklahoma City Dodgers, see Thu 1.

## Sat 3

**Texas Farmers Market at Lakeline.** 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The Texas Farmers Market at Lakeline is open every Saturday, rain or shine. Lakeline Mall, 11200 Lakeline Mall Drive. [visitcedarparktexas.com](http://visitcedarparktexas.com).

**Family Storytime.** 11-11:30 a.m. Enjoy books, songs and rhymes alongside your toddlers and preschoolers. Round Rock Public Library, 216 E. Main St. [roundrocktexas.gov](http://roundrocktexas.gov).

**Read to a Therapy Dog.** 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Read to Princess Buttercup Dump Truck or Bently, our reading therapy dogs from Divine Canines. Every first and third Saturdays. Wells Branch Community Library, 15001 Wells Port Drive. [wblibrary.org](http://wblibrary.org).

**Kyle Pie in the Sky Day Celebration.** Noon to 8 p.m. Celebrate the Kyle Pie in the Sky Celebration with tethered hot air balloon rides, pies, vendors, a kid zone and more. 1231 W. Center St. [cityofkyle.com](http://cityofkyle.com).

**Screen on the Green Summer Movies: Luca (rated PG).** 8:30 p.m. Join us this season at Fareground on the first Saturday of the month for "Screen on the Green." 111 Congress Ave. FREE. [austinparks.org/events](http://austinparks.org/events).

**CONTINUED:** Round Rock Express vs Oklahoma City Dodgers, see Thu 1.

## Sun 4

**Lone Star Farmers Market.** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Join us every Sunday on the lawn of the Central Plaza for the Lone Star Farmers Market. Hill Country

Galleria, 1200 Hill Country Blvd. [lonestarfarmersmarket.com](http://lonestarfarmersmarket.com).

**Round Rock Express vs Oklahoma City Dodgers.** 1:05 p.m. Dell Diamond, 3400 E. Palm Valley Blvd. \$8 and up. [milb.com](http://milb.com).

## Mon 5 - LABOR DAY

**Labor Day Concert.** 6-9 p.m. Bring your lawn chairs or blankets and enjoy this fun. Food and drink trucks will be available. Centennial Park, Round Rock. FREE. [roundrocktexas.gov](http://roundrocktexas.gov).

## Tue 6

**Snack and Science.** 4-5 p.m. This free six-week series for kids ages 6-9 uses stories, songs, cooking and science to teach children how to keep their bodies healthy. Austin Central Public Library, 710 W. Cesar Chavez St. [bit.ly/3ptLx1r](http://bit.ly/3ptLx1r).

**Puzzles for the Mind.** 4:30-5:30 p.m. For ages 8-13. Group challenges, brain puzzles, games and more. Lago Vista Public Library, 5803 Thunderbird, Suite 40. [lagovista.lib.tx.us](http://lagovista.lib.tx.us).

**Skate Night at the Elgin Recreation Center.** 5-7 p.m. Family fun. All wheels are welcome. FREE. Elgin Recreational Center, 361 N. Highway 95. [elgintx.com](http://elgintx.com).

## Wed 7

**Dripping Springs Farmers Market.** 9 a.m. to noon. Join us as at our new location at the Pound House Farmstead at Founders Memorial Park. 419 Founders Park Road, Dripping Springs. [bit.ly/3Cu008i](http://bit.ly/3Cu008i).

## Thu 8

**Costume Palooza.** 6 p.m. The Pollstar-nominated Disney Junior tour is back with an all-new show, Disney Junior Live On Tour: Costume Palooza. Bass Concert Hall, 2350 Robert Dedman Drive. \$15. [texasperformingarts.org](http://texasperformingarts.org).

**Green Screen Film Series: E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial (rated PG).** 7:30 p.m. Join us for an outdoor movie at the Contemporary Austin, 3809 W. 35th St. \$10. [thecontemporaryaustin.org](http://thecontemporaryaustin.org).

## Fri 9

**Family Fun Night at Yonders Point.** 7:30-9:30 p.m. Bring the entire family and enjoy fun-themed activities on select Friday nights from June to October. Old Settlers Park, 3103 Aten Loop. FREE. [roundrocktexas.gov](http://roundrocktexas.gov).

## Sat 10

**Second Saturdays.** 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. There is a new craft each month and materials are provided. Bring the family. Laguna Gloria, 3809 W. 35th St. FREE. [thecontemporaryaustin.org](http://thecontemporaryaustin.org).

**CONTINUED:** Texas Farmers Market at Lakeline, see Sat 3.

## Sun 11 - GRANDPARENTS' DAY

**Heroes Memorial Park Ribbon Cutting.** 9 a.m. Join the City of Kyle in honoring our veterans, first responders and other community heroes at the Heroes Memorial Park Ribbon Cutting. 4100 S. Farm-to-Market 1626. [cityofkyle.com](http://cityofkyle.com).

**CONTINUED:** Lone Star Farm Mkt, see Sun 4.

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## Mon 12

**ATLAS Club.** 4:30–5:30 p.m. Join us for after-school activities and exploration with ATLAS Club. Each week you can learn a new skill or explore STEAM activities. Ages 8–12. Register at [wblibrary.eventbrite.com](http://wblibrary.eventbrite.com). Wells Branch Community Library, 15001 Wells Port Drive. [wblibrary.org](http://wblibrary.org).

**Kids Night.** 6–6:45 p.m. Fun crafts, activities, games and more. Children 5–8 years of age with an adult caregiver are welcome to participate. Pflugerville Public Library, 1008 W. Pfluger St. [library.pflugervilletx.gov](http://library.pflugervilletx.gov).

**Pajama Storytime.** 6:30 p.m. Wind down your day with all ages storytime fun at the Hampton Branch at Oak Hill. Austin Public Library Hampton Branch, 5125 Convict Hill Road. [library.austintexas.gov](http://library.austintexas.gov).

## Tue 13

**Pajama Jam Storytime and Stuffy Sleepover.** 6–7 p.m. Come dressed in your jammies for storytime. Leave your stuffed animal to spend the night at the library and pick it up the next day. Lago Vista Public Library, 5803 Thunderbird, Suite 40. [lagovista.lib.tx.us](http://lagovista.lib.tx.us).

## Wed 14

**Little Sprouts.** 10–11 a.m. Bring your little ones to the gardens for our weekly Little

Sprouts preschool program tailored for children ages three to five years. Wildflower Center, 4801 La Crosse Ave. [wildflower.org](http://wildflower.org).

**CONTINUED:** Dripping Springs Farmers Market, see Wed 7.

## Fri 16

**Family Campout 2022.** 4 p.m. to 8:30 a.m. The City of Round Rock's Parks and Recreation Department hosts a campout. Pop your tent around the Lakeview Pavilion, eat dinner, have fun, play games, sit around the campfire eating s'mores, watch a movie in the park and then sleep under the stars. Old Settlers Park, 3300 E. Palm Valley Blvd. [roundrocktexas.gov](http://roundrocktexas.gov).

## Sat 17

**Harvest of Fall Fun Sweet Berry Farm.** 10 a.m. Join us for hayrides, pumpkins, mazes, scarecrow stuffing, face painting and more. 1801 Farm-to-Market 1980, Marble Falls. [sweetberryfarm.com/fall](http://sweetberryfarm.com/fall).

**Touch-A-Truck.** 9 a.m. Kids can touch, climb on and learn about all kinds of trucks. There will be activities, vendors and more. Camp Mabry, 3038 W. 35th St. \$5–\$10. [texasmilitaryforcesmuseum.org](http://texasmilitaryforcesmuseum.org).

**September Family Challenge Adventure Day.** 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Join us

for a day of adventure and heights as you conquer the challenge course and try for tug-of-war champion. \$25–\$50/family. YMCA Camp Moody, 1220 Old San Antonio Road, Buda. [austinyymca.org](http://austinyymca.org).

**Leander Arts Fest.** Noon to 5 p.m. Family-friendly music and entertainment, food, art vendors and the grand opening of the Lakewood Park Sculpture Walking Trail. FREE. 2040 Artesian Springs Crossing, Leander. [leandertx.gov](http://leandertx.gov).

**Hooves and Read.** 1–2 p.m. Kids can practice their reading skills with miniature therapy horses. Recommended for Grades K–2. Space is limited. Pflugerville Public Library, 1008 W. Pfluger St. [library.pflugervilletx.gov](http://library.pflugervilletx.gov).

**Fly in for Supermama Sessions.** 2–3 p.m. This month, Danita Abiola, MSW, discusses the pros and cons of nursing versus formula. Child care provided for children ages 1–5. Toybrary Austin, 7817 Rockwood Lane, Suite 101. \$15. [toybrary.com](http://toybrary.com).

**Pecan Street Festival.** 8 p.m. to midnight. The Pecan Street Festival is one of the largest and longest-running arts, crafts and music festivals in the nation. FREE. [pecanstreetfestival.org](http://pecanstreetfestival.org).

**15th Annual Viva México: A Quincenara.** 6–10 p.m. This lively celebration will include live music and dance performances, panel discussions,

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family-friendly art activities and a mercado. Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Culture Center, 600 River St. FREE. [vivamexicoatx.net/home](http://vivamexicoatx.net/home).

**CONTINUED:** Texas Farmers Market at Lakeline, see Sat 3; Read to a Therapy Dog, see Sat 3.

## Sun 18

**Austin Museum Day 2022.** 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. To see a list of all museums participating, see page 25 in Austin Family magazine. FREE. [austinemuseums.org](http://austinemuseums.org).

**Crafty Café.** 2–3:30 p.m. Make a rice paper balloon lantern. Ages 12+. Pflugerville Public Library, 1008 W. Pflugger St. [library.pflugervilletx.gov](http://library.pflugervilletx.gov).

**CONTINUED:** Lone Star Farmers Market, see Sun 4; Harvest of Fall Fun Sweet Berry Farm & Pecan Street Festival, see Sat 17.

## Mon 19

**CONTINUED:** Kids Night, see Mon 12; Harvest of Fall Fun Sweet Berry Farm, see Sat 17.

## Tue 20

**CONTINUED:** Harvest of Fall Fun Sweet Berry Farm, see Sat 17.

## Wed 21

**CONTINUED:** Dripping Springs Farmers Market, see Wed 7.

## Fri 23

**Movies in the Park: In the Heights (rated PG-13).** 8 p.m. Brought to you by Austin Parks Foundation. Pan American Recreation Center, 2100 E. Third St. [austinparks.org/events](http://austinparks.org/events).

**CONTINUED:** Family Fun Night at Yonders Point, see Fri 9. Harvest of Fall Fun Sweet Berry Farm, see Sat 17.

## Sat 24

### The Dripping Springs Pumpkin Festival.

10 a.m. Experience unlimited fun with over 50 fall-inspired games, activities, seasonal foods and drinks at this historic location, plus live music. Pound Historical Farmstead, 419 Founders Park Road, Dripping Springs. \$10. [drippingspringspumpkinfestival.com](http://drippingspringspumpkinfestival.com).

**Fall Festival at Mama Mary's Farm and Pumpkin Patch.** 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Come enjoy a pumpkin patch, photo ops, animals, a hay maze, vendors and more. \$14 Saturday and Sunday, \$7 Wednesday thru Friday, under 2 free.

5701 Williamson Road, Creedmoor. [mamamarysfarm.com](http://mamamarysfarm.com).

**6th Annual Library Con.** 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Join us for a fun-filled day of panels, crafts, cosplay and gaming. Meet comic authors and artists, voice actors, cosplayers and more. Pflugerville Public Library, 1008 W. Pflugger St. [library.pflugervilletx.gov](http://library.pflugervilletx.gov).

**6th Annual Mermaid Fest.** 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. The event kicks off with a parade and Mermaid Splash royal court followed by the Downtown Street Faire with food and live music. Downtown San Marcos, San Marcos Square. FREE. [bit.ly/3ChVF54](http://bit.ly/3ChVF54).

**Staci Gray Kids Concert.** 10:30–11:30 a.m. Staci Gray is an Austin-based children's entertainer known for her fun songs, including "The Tom T-Rex." Join us for songs, stories and bubbles. Wells Branch Community Library, 15001 Wells Port Dr. [wblibrary.org](http://wblibrary.org).

**North ATX Good Neighbor Fest.** 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Good Neighbor Fest is a free community festival that brings North Austin neighbors together through family-friendly activities, art and live music. 601 W. Braker Lane. FREE. [atxneighborfest.com](http://atxneighborfest.com).

**CONTINUED:** Texas Farmers Market at Lakeline, see Sat 3.

## Sun 25

**CONTINUED:** Lone Star Farmers Market, see Sun 4; Harvest of Fall Fun Sweet Berry Farm, see Sat 17; Fall Festival at Mama Mary's Farm and Pumpkin Patch, see Sat 24.

## Mon 26

**CONTINUED:** ATLAS Club, see Mon 12; Kids Night, see Mon 12; Harvest of Fall Fun Sweet Berry Farm, see Sat 17.

## Tue 27

**CONTINUED:** Harvest of Fall Fun Sweet Berry Farm, see Sat 17.

## Wed 28

**CONTINUED:** Dripping Springs Farmers Market, see Wed 7; Fall Festival at Mama Mary's Farm and Pumpkin Patch, see Sat 24.

## Thu 29

**Forklift Fantasia.** 7 p.m. Spend an evening immersed in aquamarine along the banks of Waller Creek, while celebrating boundless imagination, the art in everyday life, and a preview performance of "The Shape of Water." Symphony Square, 1101 Red River St. FREE. [forkliftdanceworks.org](http://forkliftdanceworks.org).

**CONTINUED:** Harvest of Fall Fun Sweet Berry Farm, see Sat 17; Fall Festival at

Mama Mary's Farm and Pumpkin Patch, see Sat 24.

## Fri 30

**American Indian Heritage Day 2022.** 6–8 p.m. Join the Bullock Museum and Great Promise for American Indians in a celebration of the 10th Annual American Indian Heritage Day. Bullock Texas State History Museum, 1800 Congress Ave. FREE. [thistoryoftexas.com](http://thistoryoftexas.com).

**CONTINUED:** Harvest of Fall Fun Sweet Berry Farm, see Sat 17; Fall Festival at Mama Mary's Farm and Pumpkin Patch, see Sat 24.

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# What's Cooler Than Caves?

Photo credit Annette Lucksinger

JESS ARCHER

Archer is a freelance writer in Austin. Find Jess at [writerjessarcher.com](http://writerjessarcher.com).

It has been one of the hottest summers on record in Austin, and though the summer break has ended, the heat hasn't let up yet. If you are looking for ways to stay cool and comfortable in these high temperatures, and swimming in the neighborhood or backyard pool has lost its appeal, consider another invigorating excursion – cave exploration!

To get your excursion planning started, here are three fantastic cave experiences in the Austin area for a cool, cave escape:

## Longhorn Cavern Burnet, Texas

With cave temperatures at a constant 68 degrees all year long, Longhorn Cavern is a truly cool place that you'll want to take out-of-towners to experience. Boasting the title of the "National Cave of Texas," these caverns will not disappoint. Above ground, the stonework, structures and trails built by the Civilian Conservation Corps are worth exploring, too.

The most popular way to experience these ancient caves is through the Walking Tour, which can easily be booked online. Admission prices are very reasonable with all tickets under \$20. If you have kids that love a hands-on learning experience, you can bundle a ticket with a Gemstone Mining experience.



Photo credit T. Michael Jones

**Each month, topics in this column alternate between cool, new places to go and family-friendly activities to do at home. This month, keep cool underground!**

For a little more adventure, Wild Cave tours will put you in a hard hat and harness to allow you to explore deeper, hidden caves with a trained guide. To learn more, go to [visitlonghorncavern.com](http://visitlonghorncavern.com).

## Inner Space Cavern Georgetown, Texas

Not to be outdone, nearby Inner Space Cavern is regarded as one of the best-preserved caves in Texas. Inner Space is part of the Texas Cave Trail system, which is made up of five enormous caves in the area, each of which differs slightly in ecosystem and appearance.

Inner Space offers four different types of tours, two of which are for the more adventurous of heart. Their most popular and classic is the Adventure Walking Tour that is suitable for beginners and all ages. On the one-hour walking tour, visitors will learn the history of the caverns in a comfortable 72 degrees. You can also hear about the various animals whose fossils have been found in the caves, including one of a saber-toothed tiger.

Once above ground, visitors can take a ride on Inner Space's brand-new Saber Tooth zip ride, a 33 mph tandem ride that rises 130 feet up in the air! For more information about ticket prices, go to [innerspacecavern.com](http://innerspacecavern.com).

## Cave Without a Name Boerne, Texas

If the name doesn't get your attention, the beauty and history of this cave system certainly will. Located 11 miles outside of Boerne, this cave is considered one of the most beautiful in all of Texas. It acquired its peculiar name as the result of a local naming contest. One boy said the caverns were "too beautiful for words," and the phrase stuck.

Cave Without a Name is made up of six major rooms. Each room has magnificent natural features. The acoustics in The Throne Room are so impressive that musicians are invited to come play live concerts in the space. Visitors will stay comfortable in the natural 66-degree air too.

For a listing of upcoming musical acts, visit [cavewithoutaname.com](http://cavewithoutaname.com). To make reservations for a walking tour, you must call the reservation phone number at 830-537-4212.

## It's time to start enjoying life!

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# The Rainy Stage of Life

During this unbearable heat wave, my son Gibson and I have been reminiscing about a time in his life when he started loving water and rain. Gibson was 3 1/2 years old, and during another particularly hot summer, he announced he wanted to be in the water all the time. "I want to be watered like the plants are watered. I want rain showers on me all the time," he said.

Once at the very end of a hot, dry summer day, we heard loud thunder. Gibson got his galoshes on and sat beside our front door, ready to go out at the first drop of rain. He took my hand and said, "Mommy, you need the rain too. You need to water your Mommy-plant. Your arms are droopy, and your smile looks dry." "You're right," I said and sat down beside him waiting for the rain.

Each morning he would go out on the back deck, and exclaim, "Water me." So, I would spray him down with our sprinkler hose. Sometimes, when we were out for lunch, he would say loudly, "Mommy, Gibson needs a shower now. I need a shower now, right away. Again!" One time a mom at another lunch table said, "That is wonderful. I cannot get my kids to bathe, and your son is demanding a shower." She didn't know how high our water bill was rising and how I was running out of ways to keep him wet.

One more loud roaring thunder and it was pouring. He took my hand and together we walked out into the rain. We danced in the rain, covered our faces and arms with mud, and laughed together.

Now in this hot month, many years later, we wait for the rain with our galoshes, droopy arms and dry smiles, ready to go again!



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*Reynolds is a writer, published playwright and proud mom of two. Her writing has been featured in national magazines including PerContra, Forbes for Women, Entrepreneur and Yes! magazine. Find her on Twitter or Instagram @netreynolds.*

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# MUSEUM DAY

## FREE ADMISSION SEPT. 18

These Austin area museums feature family-friendly exhibits and activities especially of interest to kids. Visit [www.austinmuseums.org/about-austin-museum-day](http://www.austinmuseums.org/about-austin-museum-day).

### Downtown Area

■ **Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum**

[www.thestoryoftexas.com](http://www.thestoryoftexas.com)

■ **Brush Square Museums**

[www.brushsquaremuseums.org](http://www.brushsquaremuseums.org)

■ **Capitol Visitors Center**

[www.tspb.texas.gov](http://www.tspb.texas.gov)

■ **The Contemporary Austin**

[www.thecontemporaryaustin.org](http://www.thecontemporaryaustin.org)

■ **Dougherty Arts Center**

[bit.ly/3wk1bAs](http://bit.ly/3wk1bAs)

■ **Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Culture Center**

[bit.ly/3pCoRwe](http://bit.ly/3pCoRwe)

■ **Flower Hill Urban Homestead Museum**

[www.flowerhillfoundation.org](http://www.flowerhillfoundation.org)

■ **Mexic-Arte Museum**

[www.mexic-artemuseum.org](http://www.mexic-artemuseum.org)

■ **Texas Music Museum**

[www.texasmusicmuseum.org](http://www.texasmusicmuseum.org)

■ **Texas State Capitol**

[www.tspb.texas.gov](http://www.tspb.texas.gov)

### UT Campus Area

■ **Art Galleries at Black Studies**

[www.galleriesatut.org](http://www.galleriesatut.org)

■ **Blanton Museum of Art**

[www.blantonmuseum.org](http://www.blantonmuseum.org)

■ **Harry Ransom Center**

[www.hrc.utexas.edu](http://www.hrc.utexas.edu)

■ **Landmarks Public Art Program**

[www.landmarks.utexas.edu](http://www.landmarks.utexas.edu)

■ **The LJB Presidential Library**

[www.lbjlibrary.org](http://www.lbjlibrary.org)

### Northeast

■ **Pioneer Farms**

[www.pioneerfarms.org](http://www.pioneerfarms.org)

### Central

■ **Elisabet Ney Museum**

[bit.ly/3Aa95gJ](http://bit.ly/3Aa95gJ)

■ **Neil Cochran House Museum**

[www.nchmuseum.org](http://www.nchmuseum.org)

■ **Texas Military Forces Museum**

[www.texasmilitaryforcesmuseum.org](http://www.texasmilitaryforcesmuseum.org)

■ **Umlauf Sculpture Garden & Museum**

[www.umlaufsculpture.org](http://www.umlaufsculpture.org)

### East (of I-35)

■ **French Legation State Historic Site**

[visitfrenchlegation.com](http://visitfrenchlegation.com)

■ **Texas State Cemetery**

[www.cemetery.texas.gov](http://www.cemetery.texas.gov)

■ **Thinkery**

[www.thinkeryaustin.org](http://www.thinkeryaustin.org)

■ **Women & Their Work**

[www.womenandtheirwork.org](http://www.womenandtheirwork.org)

### South

■ **Austin Nature and Science Center**

[bit.ly/3AgzU2K](http://bit.ly/3AgzU2K)

■ **Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center**

[www.wildflower.org](http://www.wildflower.org)

■ **Sheffield Education Center**

[bit.ly/3CoSj0k](http://bit.ly/3CoSj0k)

### Multiple Locations

■ **MathHappens Foundation**

[www.mathhappens.org](http://www.mathhappens.org)

### Georgetown

■ **Williamson Museum**

[www.williamsonmuseum.org](http://www.williamsonmuseum.org)

### Johnson City

■ **Science Mill**

[www.sciencemill.org](http://www.sciencemill.org)

*Check the Museum Day Austin website for updates and additions.*



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