

## Summer Programs For Kids

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The school year is almost over, and that means many students are looking forward to the summer: staying home, hitting the pool, playing video games.

But according to local youth organizations, it's important for parents to get their kids involved in summer activities to keep them busy.

"Kids come back to school after the summer having lost up to two months of their school year reading," said Katie Brackenridge with Partnership for Children and Youth. "Teachers, as a result, are having to re-teach before they can move forward."



The Valley offers several summer programs for kids

Brackenridge attended the "Out-of-School Time" expo in Palm Springs Thursday, a conference that helps educators come up with summer programs.

But it's not just youth organizers who say summer programs are important. A Palm Springs grandmother told KPSP Local 2 that her daughter works and struggles to find a place to leave her grandson. She also said it's hard to find summer programs that are within budget.

"She asks the other grandma one day, so the kids is jumping around one place to another. She asked about one program, but it was expensive," Liliana Garcia said.

Andrea Madrigal with the Boys and Girls Club said, this year, the fee for its summer afternoon program is at its lowest: \$15. She says they offer programs that help the continued development in children.

"We have a lot of high yield learning activities that we do here," she said. "In the computer room, for instance, we do fun games where they're actually learning while they're playing the games."

The center is also in the middle of building an indoor swimming pool to keep kids cool during the summer heat.

The YMCA in Palm Springs is offering summer activities for kids such as flag football and aquatics. To learn more about their programs head to <http://ymcaofthedesert.com>

Check out this map we found of other summer programs going on:

View [Coachella Valley Summer Camps](#) in a larger map

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