

## ABQ for Kids

Contact Nancy Mattern if you have questions (nmat@swcp.com)

### Old Town area

Explora: giant Lincoln logs on roof, light, sound, water, electricity, bubbles, marble projects, weekly summer programs  
[www.explora.us/ExploraPHP/english/summercamp08.php](http://www.explora.us/ExploraPHP/english/summercamp08.php)

Natural History Museum and Planetarium: [www.nmnaturalhistory.org](http://www.nmnaturalhistory.org), dinosaurs, walk-through volcano, time machine, Mars rover simulation, Dynamax theater, planetarium shows - I keep hoping the planetarium gets its act together for some good shows, maybe this summer ...

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Rattlesnake Museum: [www.rattlesnakes.com](http://www.rattlesnakes.com)

BioPark: Zoo, train to Aquarium, pass by Tingley Park (fishing, model boating), Botanic Gardens, Model Railroad, Butterfly Pavilion, Heritage Farm, Japanese Garden, [www.cabq.gov/biopark](http://www.cabq.gov/biopark)

National Atomic Museum: [www.atomicmuseum.com](http://www.atomicmuseum.com)

Rio Grande Nature Center and Bosque Trail Parks: [www.cabq.gov/openspace/riograndevalley.html](http://www.cabq.gov/openspace/riograndevalley.html) Can rent roller blades or bikes for the paved bike path which is over 20 miles long. Going south from the Alameda trailhead (near Corrales) you get to see camels, llamas, ostriches, etc. odd critters in peoples' backyards. South by the zoo the polar bears will look over and check you out as you pass by.

### Other Museums

Balloon Museum: [www.balloonmuseum.com](http://www.balloonmuseum.com), interesting, but could be better.

Unser Museum: [www.unseracingmuseum.com](http://www.unseracingmuseum.com), never been here, but it looks cool for 8 year old boys.

UNM Meteorite Museum: in the UNM Geology building (free, I love this place), there is also an earth/evolution museum there.

[epswww.unm.edu/meteoritemuseum/index.htm](http://epswww.unm.edu/meteoritemuseum/index.htm) (not sure why this web address is so weird, but it does work).

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[www.unm.edu/~maxwell](http://www.unm.edu/~maxwell), NM prehistory, walk through time, and don't forget to bring bread crumbs for the campus duck pond.

National Hispanic Cultural Museum and the Atomic Museum: not too much kids' stuff, but depends on the kid, I guess.

### *Other Activities*

[www.sandiapeak.com](http://www.sandiapeak.com), if you go when it is not crowded, there is a possibility of a tour of the machine room at the base given by a non-busy employee or two. Trails at the top are fun, and in the summer on weekends the chairlift runs down the east side of the mountain. There is also mountain biking down the east of the mountain.

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

[www.nps.gov/petr/](http://www.nps.gov/petr/)

[www.concretedisciples.com/cd\\_skate/newmexico.php](http://www.concretedisciples.com/cd_skate/newmexico.php)

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

[www.hinklefamilyfuncenter.com](http://www.hinklefamilyfuncenter.com). Go to the nickel arcade - much cheaper and kids LOVE it.

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[www.itzusa.com/](http://www.itzusa.com/), never been here, but another arcade, I assume.

[NE corner of Indian School and Tramway Blvd.](#), hundreds of wild critters fed and watered by neighbors

## *Hikes*

[Tent Rocks: \(www.explorenm.com/hikes/TentRocks\)](http://www.explorenm.com/hikes/TentRocks) about 1 hour and 15 minutes northwest of ABQ, this is a great hike up a slot canyon with beautiful and unusually shaped volcanic ash formations. There are picnic tables near the parking lot. You will also be near [Santo Domingo Pueblo \(www.santodomingopueblo.com/\)](http://www.santodomingopueblo.com/) and [Cochiti Pueblo \(www.pueblodecochiti.org/\)](http://www.pueblodecochiti.org/).

Elena Gallegos and Sandia foothills hiking trails (west side of mountain): [www.cabq.gov/openspace/sandiafoothills](http://www.cabq.gov/openspace/sandiafoothills)

East Mountain hiking: [www.cabq.gov/openspace/eastmountain](http://www.cabq.gov/openspace/eastmountain)