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Tompkins County is full of fun things for children to do, and interesting places for children to go with their families. While there's always more, we hope the contents of this guide provides you with the information and inspiration to explore a variety of family friendly/child centered community settings and activities with your children.

#### Please note:

Many are, but not all activities listed, are geared for children under 3 years of age. Perhaps your EI participant has older siblings who would enjoy them.

• Dates and hours of operation, timing of events, fees, etc. are subject to change. Please use the contact info provided to confirm that the details listed are current before you set out on your adventure.

The Alex Haley Municipal Pool is Greater Ithaca Activities Center's (GIAC) established community outdoor swimming pool - open to youth and adults of all ages and swimming abilities. The pool is available for use by organizations and groups for open swim at a group rate. Centrally located - across from GIAC - near downtown Ithaca, this public pool is an easy walk to and from The Commons and surrounding Fall Creek and Northside neighborhoods and their events.	Open Seasonally: Memorial Day - Labor Day   Daily: Noon to Evening hours. Rain Policy: Please call 272-3622 if the weather is questionable. Hours M - F 12:00 PM — 7:00 PM Sat 12:00 PM — 7:00 PM Sun 12:00 PM — 7:00 PM Admission Fee Under 12yrs: \$2/\$3 for 12 & up Season passes can be purchased for individuals and families. Scholarships are available.
Ithaca Belle Sherman - 501 Mitchell St, Ithaca, NY 14850 Caroline - 2439 Slaterville Rd, Slaterville Springs, NY 14881 Cayuga Heights - 110 E Upland Rd, Ithaca, NY 14850 Enfield - 20 Enfield Main Rd, Ithaca, NY 14850 Fall Creek - 202 King St, Ithaca, NY 14850 Northeast - 425 Winthrop Dr, Ithaca, NY 14850 South Hill - 520 Hudson St, Ithaca, NY 14850 Dryden - 36 Union St, Dryden, NY 13053 Freeville - 43 Main St, Freeville, NY 13068 Groton - 516 Elm St, Groton, NY 13073 Lansing - 284 Ridge Rd, Lansing, NY 14882 McLean - 32 School St, McLean, NY 13102 Newfield - 247 Main St, Newfield, NY 14867 Trumansburg - 100 Whig St, Trumansburg, NY 14886 Also in Trumansburg A favorite T-burg play area is the "Little Houses"/"Tiny Town" as it's referred to by locals, is a group of three wooden play houses: minilibrary, mini-fire station (complete with fire pole to slide down and mini-house) located right on Main St.	Open to the public during non-school hours. Free
	Center's (GIAC) established community outdoor swimming pool - open to youth and adults of all ages and swimming abilities. The pool is available for use by organizations and groups for open swim at a group rate. Centrally located - across from GIAC - near downtown Ithaca, this public pool is an easy walk to and from The Commons and surrounding Fall Creek and Northside neighborhoods and their events.  Ithaca  Belle Sherman - 501 Mitchell St, Ithaca, NY 14850 Caroline - 2439 Slaterville Rd, Slaterville Springs, NY 14881 Cayuga Heights - 110 E Upland Rd, Ithaca, NY 14850 Enfield - 20 Enfield Main Rd, Ithaca, NY 14850 Fall Creek - 202 King St, Ithaca, NY 14850 Northeast - 425 Winthrop Dr, Ithaca, NY 14850 South Hill - 520 Hudson St, Ithaca, NY 14850 Dryden - 36 Union St, Dryden, NY 13053 Freeville - 43 Main St, Freeville, NY 13068 Groton - 516 Elm St, Groton, NY 13073 Lansing - 284 Ridge Rd, Lansing, NY 14882 McLean - 32 School St, McLean, NY 13102 Newfield - 247 Main St, Newfield, NY 14867 Trumansburg - 100 Whig St, Trumansburg, NY 14886 Also in Trumansburg A favorite T-burg play area is the "Little Houses"/"Tiny Town" as it's referred to by locals, is a group of three wooden play houses: minilibrary, mini-fire station (complete with fire pole to slide

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TC3 - Tompkins Cortland Community College 170 North Street P.O. Box 139 Dryden, NY 13053 1.888.567.8211 or 1.607.844.8211	The College pool is available for family swims, lap swimming, college swims (Tompkins Cortland students only), water aerobics and swim lessons. Children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult (18 years of age or older) who is responsible for their behavior and safety while at the pool.  They offer a common area dressing room that can be used by families concerned about sending young children to the locker room unsupervised. Ask the lifeguard for details.	Community Members \$2.00 per swim or \$30 for a 20-visit punch card For more information call the College recreation office at 607.844.8222, Ext. 4495.
Cass Park Office Phone: 607-273-1090 Fax: 607-273-8633 Info Line: 607-273-9211 https://www.cityofithaca.org/213/Cass-Park	Cass Park is a regional park managed by the City of Ithaca's Youth Bureau and used heavily by residents from all parts of Tompkins County. Along with the ice rink and swimming pool, there are 4 outdoor tennis courts, 32 athletic fields (4 of them lighted), playground equipment, exercise trail, & large pavilion.	Please call or visit website for hours or operation, registration information, and fees.
Groton Memorial Park & Pool Sykes Street Groton, N.Y. 13073	Olympic-size pool is fully staffed with lifeguard. Groton Recreation offers a wide range of year-round community events, youth sports, and summer programs.	Open late June-Labor Day POOL HOURS OF OPERATION (Summer Only) OPEN SWIM: MON -FRI 12:30-4:30pm & 6:00-8:00pm SAT & SUN 12:30-4:30pm For more information call the pool during the summer season @ 607-898-9508  Other Groton Recreation Programs Contact: Jennifer Jones - Director of Recreation 143 Cortland Street, PO Box 100 Groton, N.Y. 13073 607-898-3966

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Myers Park  1 Lansing Park Rd, Lansing, NY 14882 Phone: (607) 533-7388 ext. 17 http://www.lansingrec.com/parks/myerspark	Myers Park sits on the eastern shore of Cayuga Lake, in the Town of Lansing off Route 34B, the park is graced with 31 acres of grass covered, tree shaded land, with extensive Cayuga Lake frontage. A swimming area (with lifeguards on duty,) playground, volleyball net, basketball court, horseshoe pits, and vending machines are available. Pavilions, picnic tables and barbecue grills and boat marina.	Admission to the Park is free for Town of Lansing residents. Nonresidents are charged \$5 per car. Hours: Friday 6:15AM-10:30PM Saturday 6:15AM-10:30PM Sunday Closed Monday 6:15AM-10:30PM Tuesday 6:15AM-10:30PM Wednesday 6:15AM-10:30PM Thursday 6:15AM-10:30PM
Stewart Park  1 James L Gibbs Dr Ithaca, NY 14850	Located at the Southern end of the lake near the Ithaca Youth Bureau, Stewart park has a play area for little kids, one for bigger kids, walking paths, a merry-go-round carousel, and sprinkler fountain area for water play. Stewart Park also has lots of green space for ball games & running, pavilions, a pond where people can fish, and paddle board and kayak rentals. There's a flat paved trail you can take to the Farmer's Market or even all the way to Cass Park. Great for bike learners.  Coming to Ithaca Fall of 2018!  Beautifully-designed, accessible new playground, to be built collaboratively by contractors and community members, will dramatically enhance Stewart Park as a regional destination for families, individuals, children of all ages and abilities, and visitors. PLAYGROUND WILL FEATURE:  Natural play areas   Splash pad   School age playgrounds   Music Garden   Picnic shelter   New accessible bathrooms   Restored and accessible carousel   Accessible walkways	Stewart Park is open 5am – 10pm year-round. You can visit Stewart Park by bus, foot, bike, and watercraft. The Carousel is open from Memorial Day to Labor Day. Operates 11:00 a.m7:00 p.m. Tuesday to Sunday and during public holidays that fall on Mondays
Varna Community Center Playground 943 Dryden Rd, Ithaca, NY 14850 (Route 366) (607) 272-2658	Varna's Community Playground is Open to the Public Large, professionally designed & recently built playground with activities for toddlers and older children - swings, slides, climbing wall, overhead rings, lots more Open daily from dawn to dusk.	Free

YMCA	The YMCA has 2 indoor pools, a "family pool" that is used	Call for fees and schedules.
50 Graham Rd W	mostly for lessons and free play and a large lap pool.	Hours:
Ithaca, NY 14850	Swimming lessons are available year-round to members	Monday 5:30AM–8PM
Phone: (607) 257-0101	and non-members alike. Day pass and pool pass available	Tuesday 5:30AM–8PM
(66. / 25. 6262	for non-members as well.	Wednesday 5:30AM–8PM
		Thursday 5:30AM–8PM
		Friday 5:30AM–8PM
		Saturday 7AM–6PM
		Sunday 9AM–6PM

# **Indoor Play Spaces**

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Barnes & Noble Tops Plaza 614 South Meadow Ithaca, NY 14850 607-273-6784 https://stores.barnesandnoble.com/ store/2122Barnes&Noble	This store has a train table, toys and lots of books to read.	Store Hours: Sun 11-7 Mon-Sat 10-9 Call or check the calendar on their website, or check out their Facebook page for story times and activities, game nights, and "book hangouts"
Eastlake Indoor Playground  19 Eastlake Rd Ithaca, NY 14850 (607) 277-2151 info@eastlakerecreation.com	The glass-enclosed red slide of the Eastlake indoor playground has become somewhat of a landmark in the Ithaca area. Ball pit, jungle gym, slides Come join in on the fun!	Pre-School Open Play: Each Friday from 10:00am-12:00 noon, Eastlake hosts open play for local preschoolers. Open play is open to the general public. The fee is \$3 a child. Open Play: Open play is scheduled during school vacations. For specific dates and times, please check the club answering machine or email Mike. Dates times, and fees subject to change.
Jillian's Drawers 171 East State Street, Ithaca, NY 14850. 607-272-1237 located in downtown Ithaca, right on the middle of the kid-friendly pedestrian mall near the playground, on the Ithaca Commons.	A natural parenting store with a community room, small bounce house and ball pit for kids under 40lb. that costs \$1 an hour, and other play areas! When there are no classes going on, the community room is open for gentle free play, with some toys and a slide. There are also many awesome classes and meetings there including Toddler/Preschool Variety Class and Baby Variety Class are great options for the little artists in your life! Variety Classes are a 9-week series of weekly classes including art, music and yoga classes. Several play groups and parent support groups meet in the community room, including a dads/fathers groupithacadadsgroup@gmail.com and a parents of twins group	Open 7 days a week!  HOURS:  Monday-Saturday: 10am-6pm Thursdays: 10am-4pm Sunday: 12pm-5pm

# **Indoor Play Spaces**

Lansing Community Drop-In-Center 29 Auburn Rd Lansing, NY 14882 Phone: (607) 533-7658	Located on the second floor of the Community Center, we offer a stimulating environment for children two years of age and older. Younger children are welcome but must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Our day consists of free play, circle time, snack, and arts and crafts.  Three paid employees staff the Center, but the program	The Center is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9:30 a.m. until 12:15 p.m. during the Lansing School year. (The Center follows the Lansing school calendar for vacations, holidays and snow days.)  A donation of \$3 per hour per child with a maximum of \$6 per day for a family is encouraged. For more
	relies on parents volunteering their time on a rotation schedule, usually once a month, to help maintain a high adult to child ratio.	information, please call 533-7658 during program hours.
TOT SPOT ITHACA YOUTH BUREAU 1 James L. Gibbs Drive Ithaca NY 14850 607-273-8364 https://www.iybrec.org/tot-spot.html	Stay and play place for children and their grownups. The Tot Spot is a fun indoor play area with slides, climbing structures, many push and ride toys, room to zoom, books and other fun things.  Also Ithaca Youth Bureau has Recreation programs including sports, theatre classes, art classes, fencing, chess, Tae Kwon Do and more. At their website, click on "recreation" and find the link to the "IPLAYbook" for program details or call 273-864.	WHEN: Mid October to mid April, specific dates based on weather.  Times as follows (Times subject to change):  DAYS: Mon, Tues, Thurs, Sat 9:30-11:30am  Who: Ages 5 months – 5 years  Where: Ithaca Youth Bureau  2017 Fees: 5-12 Months = \$2.50  1 Year- 5 Years = \$4.50  ADULTS ARE ALWAYS FREE!  Frequent Visit Pass: Passes 6 Visits for \$22. (RP ONLY)  Rates subject to change!  SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE.
Wkids at Wegmans 500 South Meadow Street Ithaca, NY 14850 Open 24 hours 607-277-5800	W kids is a safe play area for 3+ up potty-trained kids. Parents must stay in the store, but sometimes mommies plan a Wkids playdate while the grownups eat or drink coffee in the café	Free. Call for WKids hours.

#### **Science and Nature**

#### **Cayuga Nature Center**

1420 Taughannock Blvd Ithaca, NY 14850 (607) 273-260 http://www.priweb.org/index.php/ cayuga-nature-center Located on 120 acres of land overlooking Cayuga Lake, the Cayuga Nature Center cultivates awareness, appreciation, and responsibility for the natural world.

View live animals in outdoor and indoor exhibits.

Climb TreeTops, our six-story tree house and get a bird'seye view of the forest canopy.

See exhibits on the ecology of the Cayuga Basin in our historic Lodge.

Visit the Butterfly Garden in summer to see monarchs, swallowtails, and more.

Cayuga Nature Center offers Camp programs
Changing our perspective of the natural world begins
with immersion. This is perhaps best witnessed in our
Preschool Naturalist program, where participants ages 3
to 5 are encouraged to embrace the sights, sounds, and
smells of the outdoors, until they become as familiar as
those within their homes. The unbridled joy that
illuminates the faces of these young campers at first
hearing the startled call of a green frog leaping into a
pond, or the feel of an earthworm wriggling in their
hands as they explore the Earth below them, is a hopeful
indicator that this early exposure will keep their natural
curiosity hungry to explore more.

#### Hours

Regular Hours (Memorial Day through Columbus Day)

Daily: 10am - 5pm

Winter Hours (Columbus Day through Memorial Day)

Daily: 10am - 4pm

#### **Holiday Hours**

The Nature Center is closed on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day. We close at 2pm on New Year's Eve

#### **Admission**

**Individual Admission Rates** 

Adult \$5

Senior (65+) \$4

College Student (with ID) \$4

Youth (4-17) \$3

Child (3 and under) Free

Members Free

EBT cardholders \$1

#### **Cornell Lab of Ornithology**

159 Sapsucker Woods Rd. Ithaca, NY 14850 (800) 843-2473 Not so much a "play space," but the Lab of Ornithology has a visitor's center with large windows for bird watching, interactive exhibits with video and sounds, and an outdoor walking trail around Sapsucker Woods.

#### **Visitor Center Hours**

10 a.m. - 4 p.m. daily

Closed Thanksgiving Day and the week between Christmas Day and New Year's Day. Hours may change due to special events.

The Sapsucker Woods Sanctuary is open daily, dawn to dusk. No dogs or bicycles please.

**Admission is free**. We appreciate donations and member support to help grow and develop Visitor Center experiences.

#### **Science and Nature**

#### Ithaca Children's Garden

https://ithacachildrensgarden.org/ 121 Turtle Lane (formerly Cass Park Access Rd at the south end of Cass Park on Rt. 89).

Admission is always free and open to all. Staff are not always on site so if you want to get in touch, please contact our office: (607) 319-4203.

Ithaca Children's Garden is an award-winning 3-acre public children's garden designed for kids, enjoyed by all, and driven by a mission to inspire the next generation of environmental stewards. Innovative, research-based education for sustainability is vibrantly woven through all ICG education: summer camps, school break camps, after school, preschool, seasonal workshops, family programs, and seasonal festivals. Ithaca Children's Garden is one of a kind; you won't find another place like it anywhere on earth. Whether a local resident or visitor to the Finger Lakes, ICG is your garden. Step inside and let your child – or child within – be your guide.

Here's what you need to know to plan your visit:

- Every person is welcome
- ICG is free and open to all, dawn to dusk, 365 days a year
- ICG is wheelchair accessible
- Potable water is available April-November
- Wheel chair accessible port-a-potty and rustic restrooms available
- Pack a change of clothes for your young ones just in case
- Well-behaved dogs on leashes allowable in some areas of the Garden. Children have the right of way.

#### Museum of the Earth

1259 Trumansburg Road Ithaca, NY 14850 (607) 273-6623 http://www.priweb.org/index.php/ museumoftheearth-main Explore Earth and its prehistoric past—from the tiniest trilobite to the mighty mastodon—through engaging displays, hands-on features, stunning fossils, and science-inspired art.

\*\*Thanks to a recent major gift, this NEW YNAP program provides Tompkins County young people facing difficult circumstances (aged 5 - 17) with free access to a special new membership that includes a week of summer camp at Cayuga Nature Center AND a one-year YNAP Youth Membership to PRI's public educational venues, the Cayuga Nature Center and the Museum of the Earth. YNAP provides young people and their families/caregivers all of the benefits of a regular PRI membership plus free access to all of our ticketed events, such as Maple Fest and local Fossil Field Trips, and free camp, as space is available.

#### Hours

Summer Hours (Memorial Day through Labor Day)

Daily: 10am - 5pm

Winter Hours (Labor Day through Memorial Day)

Thu - Mon: 10am - 5pm Tue - Wed: Closed

#### **Holiday Hours**

The Museum is closed on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day. We close at 2 pm on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve.

The Museum is open all week during the local school (Ithaca and Trumansburg) break weeks: Holiday Break, Winter Break, and Spring Break.

#### Admission

**Individual Admission Rates** 

Adult \$9 / Senior (65+) \$7 / College Student (with ID) \$7 / Youth (4-17) \$6 / Child (3 and under) Free

Members Free

EBT cardholders \$1Museum of the Earth offers a variety of membership levels including the Youth Naturalist Access Program (YNAP)

#### **Science and Nature**

#### Sciencenter

601 1st Street Ithaca NY 14850 (607) 272-0600 sciencenter.org The Sciencenter inspires excitement for science through interactive exhibits and programs that engage, educate and empower. Our non-profit, hands-on museum offers guests of all ages more than 250 exhibits, educational programs, a gift shop, and seasonal outdoor science playground and mini-golf course. Look, touch, listen & discover at the Sciencenter.

#### Accessibility

The Sciencenter strives to maintain a welcoming environment for all guests. Please let Front Desk staff know if we can help in any way.

- o All of our exhibits and our outdoor playgrounds are wheelchair accessible through outdoor ramps and our indoor elevator.
- o Our 18-hole mini-golf course is wheelchair accessible throughout, and adaptive golf clubs are available for use. o Wheelchair accessible stalls are located in our lobby restrooms, and there are family restrooms on both museum levels.
- o Wheelchairs are available for use from the Front Desk. o Complimentary admission will be extended to Personal Care Attendants (PCAs) who accompany clients with disabilities.
- o Service animals are welcome under ADA guidelines.
- o Sunglasses and noise reduction headphones are available for sensitive eyes and ears.
- o Changing tables are available in all restrooms.
- o Nursing mothers are welcome to breastfeed anywhere in the museum, a Boppy pillow is available upon request.

#### Hours

Tuesday - Saturday 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

Sunday 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Monday CLOSED \*Open holiday Mondays and Mondays in July and August

Mini-Golf - Open During Regular Hours \*(April 1 – November 30, weather permitting)

#### Admission

Members - FREE / Kids Under 2 - FREE

General Admission - \$8.00 / Seniors (65+) - \$7.00 / EBT Cardholders - \$1.00

We accept cash, check, Visa, MasterCard, and Discover. Children under 12 must be accompanied by someone age 16+

#### Membership

The Sciencenter offers a variety of membership options including the Membership Access Program.

Through the Sciencenter's Membership Access Program (MAP), regular Sciencenter Explorer memberships are available—free of charge—to families with children who qualify for free or reduced-cost lunch at school, and who reside in Tompkins, Cortland, Cayuga, Seneca, Schuyler, Chemung, or Tioga counties.

# **Libraries/Story Times**

Tompkins County Public Library 101 East Green Street Ithaca, NY 14850 (607) 272-4557 http://www.tcpl.org/	Located in downtown Ithaca, the Library has a large children's area, regular story times and many programs. The library's regular story times are free. Programming runs for several months at a time then takes short hiatus, so check the calendar or their website for latest story times.	Hours: Mon-Thu: 9:30am-8:30pm Fri: 9:30am-6:00pm Sat: 9:30am-5:00pm
Groton Public Library 112 E. Cortland St. Groton, NY 13073 (607) 898-5055 https://grotonpubliclibrary.net/	Call or visit the website for hours, story time, and special event schedule.	Hours September–June Mon. – Thurs. 2:00 – 9:00 PM Friday 10:00 – 7:00 PM Saturday 10:00 – 2:00 PM
Lansing Community Library 27 Auburn Road Lansing, NY 14882 Phone: 607 533 4939 Fax: 607 533 7196 Email:libadmin@lansinglibrary.org https://www.lansinglibrary.org	Call or visit the website for story times and activities	Hours: Mon – Wed 10am - 8pm Thurs 10am - 6pm Fri – Sat 10am - 2pm
Newfield Public Library 198 Main Street PO Box 154 Newfield, NY 14867 (607) 564-3594 newfieldpubliclibrary@yahoo.com	Call or visit the website for story time schedule.	HOURS: Mon, Wed, Thu 2-8 pm Tues 8am-8pm Fri 2-7 pm Sat 10 am-2 pm

# **Libraries/Story Times**

Southworth Library in Dryden 24 W. Main Street PO BOX 45 Dryden, NY 13053-0045 607-844-4782 Fax 607-844-5310 email southworthlibrary@gmail.com http://southworthlibrary.org/	Preschool Storytime: Come to the library for preschool story time with stories, crafts and snacks. They have a different theme every week to inspire your children to explore and discover through the world of books! Call or visit the website for story times and activities schedule.	Hours: Monday: 1:30 - 7 Tuesday & Thursday: 11- 5:30 Wednesday: 1:30 - 7 Friday: 11 - 7 Saturday: 10 - 2 Sunday: Closed
Ulysses Philomathic Library 74 E. Main Street (NY-96) Trumansburg, New York 14886 Phone: 607-387-5623 http://trumansburglibrary.org/UPL/ calendar	Call or visit the website for story times and activities schedule	Hours: Mon-Wed-Fri: 10 am-5 pm Tue & Thu: 10 am-8 pm Sat: 10 am-2 pm Closed Sundays

# Last but not least!

Clinton West Plaza 609 West Clinton Street, Suite 106 Ithaca, NY 14850 http://www.fingerlakestoylibrary.org/ phone: 617-872-9432 Amber Smith, Operations Manager Email: amber.smith@fingerlkestoy library.org	Improving quality of life by increasing access to toys, supporting play, and encouraging a culture of reuse and sharing. See their website for hours, open playtimes, and events around the area. Come play in our play area and find some treasures to take home.  We strive to offer membership free of charge to everyone in the community and will continue to fundraise with that goal in mind. For now, we hope that everyone who wants to borrow toys will choose to become a member, so please do not let financial concern get in your way. Feel free to contact us with any questions. Membership fees are on a sliding scale and all payments are kept confidential. Please pay what you can honestly afford, even if that is zero. There is no minimum. If you would like suggested guidelines based on income, please ask. We look forward to lending toys to you and to all members of the community!	Hours: Mondays 3:00pm-7:00pm Tuesdays 9:30am-11:30am Wednesdays 9:30am-11:30am Saturdays 9:30am-11:30am  Closed on any snow days called by the Ithaca City School District.
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# Theatre, Movement, Music, and Arts, etc.

Anna's Movement Arts P.O.Box 613 Ithaca NY 14851 607 342 7115 Email: annasmovementarts@gmail.com https://annasmovementarts.weebly.com	Offering Yoga, YogaDance and YogaArt classes for kids and teens, as well as private and group figure skating lessons for kids and adults. Her children's yoga classes are very fun Figure skating instruction can start as early as Sept 10th and is offered all year round. Anna also does birthday parties.	Check out the website or call for class schedule and hours of operation.
Clay School 950 Danby Rd. Suite 28 Ithaca, N.Y. 14850 607-882-2535	Clay School of Ithaca is a creative outlet for students of all ages. Students can choose to concentrate on wheel throwing, hand building methods, surface decoration, and functional work. There are also two-hour "Try-it" classes held each month for those people interested, but unsure if they want to have the commitment of a weekly class. The Clay School provides a dynamic and involved learning environment especially for children. Classes at The Clay School are a great activity for children both after-school and home-schooling students. Weekend workshops offer an excellent option for a parent wishing to take a class with their child, such as the Sunday Jewelry Making class for ages 11 and over and the All Level class for ages 13 and over. Stiller teaches sculpture classes for kids 6 and up	Check out the website or call for class schedule and hours of operation.
CSMA Community School of Music and Arts 607-272-1474 330 E Martin Luther King Jr (State Street) Ithaca, NY 14850 http://www.csma-ithaca.org/	For over 50 years, CSMA has provided instruction in the visual arts, music, dance, theater and languages for students of all ages, skill levels, and backgrounds, enriching the lives of more than 1000 students each year. CSMA runs many music, arts, and theatre programs throughout the year. The Ithaca Children and Youth Chorus runs through them. Their website includes info on private instruction.	Check out the website or call for class schedule and hours of operation.

Theatre, Movement, Music, and Arts, etc.		
CUSLAR 607-255-7293 cuslarlanguages@gmail.com	Spanish Classes and Camps - "CUSLAR Hola, Amigos! Spanish Through Play" classes provide a relaxed environment where children and adults can learn Spanish together through art, music, games, mini-immersion and more. Classes for Families with children 18months - 3 years old (see Jillian's Drawers calendar for booking), and 3 - 6 y.old More info: http://cuslar.org/spanish-for-families/. Our instructor Alba Sancho also offers Spanish Camps for Children, ages 4- 9 years old, during Christmas, Easter and Summer breaks.	More info at albasanchopinto@gmail.com General questions may be directed to Tim Shenk, CUSLAR Coordinator, at cuslarlanguages@gmail.com or 607-255-7293. Specific questions about class content may be directed to lead instructor Alba Sancho at albasanchopinto@gmail.com.
Fine Spirit Studio 201 Dey Street Suite 202 Ithaca NY, 14850 607-564-3690, fineyoga@yahoo.com http://www.finespiritstudio.com/	Diane Fine, Ithaca's fabulous prenatal yoga instructor has a new studio with Prenatal, Parent & Baby, Family yoga, beginner and intermediate classes, as well as private sessions and Couples Birth Preparation and special Yoga for Mothers workshops.  Family Yoga with Diane Hamilton: Stay active with indoor family fun. Diane Hamilton, children's yoga instructor with more than 500 hours of training and 10 years of teaching experience, will lead you through magical, mindful mornings at Fine Spirit Studio on Dey Street in Fall Creek. Your first class is always free. After that, 5-class cards are available for \$60. Ages 3-adult. For more information, contact Diane, OmChildYoga@gmail.com.	Check out the website or call for class schedule and hours of operation.

# Theatre, Movement, Music, and Arts, etc.

Hangar Theatre 801 Taughannock Blvd. Ithaca, NY 14850 607-273-ARTS https://hangartheatre.org/about/ hangar-theatre-company/kiddstuff/	Kiddstuff Summer Series - The Hanger produces high quality children's plays, often appropriate for kids as young as 2.  If you need accommodation for a disability, please let them know prior to the performance you are attending. You may notify the Box Office when ordering your tickets, or you can call the Audiences Service Manager at 607.273.8588 ext. 12.	Kiddstuff Summer Series - The Hanger produces high quality children's plays, often appropriate for kids as young as 2.  Check the website or contact the box office for performance details, dates, and times.  Tickets can be purchased at the box office or at the theatre one hour prior to all shows. Season subscriptions available.  Hangar Theatre is located two miles north of downtown Ithaca on Route 89 at the Treman Marina entrance to Cass Park. Unlimited free parking is available at the theatre.  The Hangar's Box Office is in Center Ithaca on the Downtown Ithaca Commons – 171 East State Street, Suite 230, Ithaca, NY 14850
Head Over Heels Gymnastics 215 Commercial Ave Ithaca, NY 14850 (607) 273-5187 http://www.headoverheelsgym.net/ithaca/	Fun gymnastics classes for 1 and up, as well as camps during times school is out and Unstructured Playtime fall through spring. Unstructured Playtime is an open gym time for parents and kids to play together and get out some energy during those cold months.	Fees: (subject to change) (6 months - 1 Year Old - \$3 for members & non- members; 1 Year Old - 5 Years Old - \$5 for members & \$7 for non-members), and regular "parent's night out" events.

# Theatre, Movement, Music, and Arts, etc.

Music Together of Ithaca 516-445-0997 musictogetherofithaca@gmail.com http://musictogetherofithaca.com/index .htm	Music Together is an internationally-recognized early childhood music and movement program for children birth through age six. We encourage children and adults to participate at their own level, without any expectation of performance. We sing, dance, clap, enjoy fingerplays and rhythmic chants, and even have an instrument play-along jam session! Our classes also help you understand and support the musical development of your child. The music is fun for the whole family.	Fees for classes. Call or check website for details and schedules.
Sew Green 112 North Cayuga Street, Ithaca, NY 14850 607-319-4106 sew@sewgreen.org http://www.sewgreen.org/	Sew Green provides sewing classes for kids 8 and up and focuses on reusing and upcycling old clothing and fabric.	Check the website or contact Sew Green by email or phone for class schedules.

#### **New York State Parks**

Buttermilk Falls State Park 112 E. Buttermilk Falls Rd. (Off Rt. 13 S) Ithaca, NY 14850 (607) 273-5761 https://parks.ny.gov/admission/	Aside from hiking, there are two large new playgrounds adjacent to each other (one for older kids and one for younger) in a nice shady area, and swimming at the bottom of the waterfall. There is some limited free parking on Sand Bank Road where those wishing to play on the playgrounds without paying the entrance fee sometimes park.	Admission Most New York State Parks charge a vehicle use fee of between \$6 and \$10 dollars for day use. Parks may also charge additional fees for such amenities picnic shelter reservations. For more information about park and historic site fees and hours, including when fees are charged, please contact the facility directly.  New York State Parks offers the following admission programs:
Robert H. Treman State Park 105 Enfield Falls Rd. Ithaca, NY 14850 (607) 273-3440 https://parks.ny.gov/admission/	The nice new playground at this park is located close to the entrance and fairly far from the picnic and swimming areas at the lower entrance to the park South of town off 13. Although it has fun play structures and lots of swings, it does not have a lot of shade.  Robert H. Treman is an area of wild beauty, with the rugged Enfield Glen gorge as its scenic highlight scattered with 12 waterfalls, including the 115-foot Lucifer Falls. Enjoy nine miles of hiking trails, or swim in a stream-fed pool beneath a waterfall. Swimming is allowed in lifeguarded area only.	Empire Pass The Empire Pass is your key to all-season enjoyment at New York State Parks. Passes are available for different lengths of time, choose from: One-year, Multi-year or, the Lifetime Empire Pass. All passes provide unlimited day use vehicle entry to most state parks and recreation facilities.  Empire Pass: Patriot Plan Benefit All members of the New York State Militia or any branch of the New York State National Guard or military reserves who is currently serving on active duty in support of the war on terrorism is eligible for one free Empire Pass for use by his or her immediate family during deployment and/or for his or her own use when returning home.
Taughannock Falls State Park 1740 Taughannock Blvd. Trumansburg, NY 14886 (607) 387-6739 https://parks.ny.gov/admission/	This state park North on 89 near Trumansburg has a large new playground conveniently located close to where they have Saturday night concerts in the summer, and the swimming area. The walk to the dramatic, tall waterfall is 3/4 a mile and very easy and stroller friendly on a wide smooth path.	Golden Park Program  New York State residents 62 or older may obtain free vehicle entry state parks on non-holiday weekdays.  Every-Kid-in-a-Park Pass: 4th Grade Free Entry Program New York State Parks will accept the National Park Service's (NPS) Every-Kid-in-a Park pass upon presentation for free entry for 4th grade students into all State Parks in 2017.  Access Pass  The Access Pass permits residents of New York State with disabilities free or discounted use of state parks, historic sites and recreational facilities.  Lifetime Liberty Pass  The Lifetime Liberty Pass permits New York State veterans with a 40% or greater service-connected disability discounted use of state parks, historic sites, and recreational facilities.

# Ithaca Trails

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Greater Ithaca and Tompkins County offer numerous trails for the outdoor activity of your choosing. There are tons of fantastic trails for walking, hiking, running & biking in Tompkins County. Here's just a few you may enjoy with kids.	Ithaca Trails https://ithacatrails.org/	
Allen H. Treman State Marine Park	Total distance: 1.1 miles / Difficulty level(s): easy / This trail is open year-round. This trail extends the City of Ithaca's Cayuga Lake Inlet Waterfront Trail along the shoreline of Cayuga Lake and the Hog Hole natural area of the park. For bird watching fans, the Hog Hole wetland and the Cayuga Lake shoreline make for excellent opportunities to view waterfowl and wetland species. There are Osprey that return to nest in the park each year that can be observed from the trail from late April to September.	Parking Lot: NY-89/Taughannock Blvd, 2 miles north of Ithaca.
Black Diamond Trail	Total distance: 8.44 miles / Difficulty level(s): easy / This trail is ADA Accessible / This trail is open year-round but is closed during firearm deer hunting season This Rail Trail is part of the old line that was once the flagship passenger line of the Lehigh Valley Railroad. Known as the Black Diamond Express, this luxury passenger service ran from New York to Buffalo from 1896 until 1959. Recreationists will experience a range of natural landscapes from a towering canopy of mature maple, hemlock, oak, and hickory, to views of pastoral agricultural lands, and dozens of ravines with the sounds of cascading waters all heading for the picturesque Cayuga Lake. This 8.5-mile stone-dust path along the upland slopes of Cayuga Lake makes for an enjoyable family-oriented walk, bike, or even cross-country skiing opportunity from the city limits of Ithaca to the 215-foot waterfall, Taughannock Falls.	Parking Lot: Find parking at Cass Park and at the west end of Taughannock or along road crossings

## Ithaca Trails

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Carl Sagan Planet Walk	Total distance: 0.97 miles / Difficulty level(s): easy / This trail is ADA Accessible. / This trail is open year-round. A varied urban walk, maintained by the Sciencenter, through a scaled solar system built as a memorial to Ithaca resident and astronomer Carl Sagan. The walk travels from The Commons through the Fall Creek neighborhood, ending at the Sciencenter. Along the route visitors encounter two neighborhood parks, a coffee shop, a grocery store and walk along a channelized section of Cascadilla Creek. The trail is marked by "planet stations" monolithic structures that display information and a scale model of each planet. The trail route follows neighborhood sidewalks. All crosswalks along the route, as well as the one pedestrian bridge, are accessible to persons with disabilities.	Parking Locations Multiple parking options may be specific to certain trails within this site.  Parking Lot: Parking off Game Farm Road next to the entrance to the trail, along Maple Avenue, and in a large Parking Lot off Snyder Hill Road and on adjacent streets  Street and Parking Lot: Parking off Game Farm Road next to the entrance to the trail, along Maple Avenue, and in a large Parking Lot off Snyder Hill Road and on adjacent streets
Cayuga Waterfront Trail	Total distance: 6.35 miles / Difficulty level(s): easy / This trail is ADA Accessible / This trail is open year-round. The Cayuga Waterfront Trail is a 5.5-mile, multi-use trail providing an active, non-motorized transportation and recreation way connecting our community's most popular waterfront destinations along the southern shore of Cayuga Lake. A 2-mile loop in Cass Park extends to a linear trail connecting the West End/Inlet Island area, the Ithaca College and Cornell University Boathouses, Ithaca Farmers Market, Newman Golf Course, Stewart Park, the Ithaca Youth Bureau, and the Chamber of Commerce/Visitor Center.	Parking Locations Multiple parking options may be specific to certain trails within this site. Parking Lot: Parking in Cass Park, behind The Space at Greenstar and on city streets along the trail Parking Lot: Parking in Stewart Park Parking Lot: Parking at Cass Park

# Ithaca Trails

Fact Ithese Description May	Total distance: 2 FF miles / Difficulty level/s), see: / This	Dayling Locations
East Ithaca Recreation Way	Total distance: 3.55 miles / Difficulty level(s): easy / This	Parking Locations
	trail is open year-round.	Multiple parking options may be specific to certain
	The East Ithaca Recreation Way is mostly built on the	trails within this site.
	former railroad bed of the Elmira Cortland & Northern	Parking Lot: Parking off Game Farm Road next to the
	Railroad from 1869. This multi-use trail is a great place to	entrance to the trail, along Maple Avenue, and in a
	go walking, biking, jogging, and birding. Horseback riding is	large Parking Lot off Snyder Hill Road and on adjacent
	permitted along the trail section from Maple Avenue to	streets
	Game Farm Road. Being close to Cornell, it is a heavily used	Street and Parking Lot: Parking off Game Farm Road
	commuter trail and provides easy-access to campus	next to the entrance to the trail, along Maple Avenue,
	(winter maintenance provided). The northern section of	and in a large Parking Lot off Snyder Hill Road and on
	the trail (Game Farm Road to Maple Avenue) runs through	adjacent streets
	the Cornell Botanic Gardens Upper Cascadilla Creek	·
	Natural Area which includes a demonstration wetland and	
	the MacDaniels Nut Grove. On the southernmost section	
	of the trail (Pine Tree Road to Park Lane), you can enjoy	
	traveling through the Pine Tree Wildlife Preserve, the East	
	Ithaca Nature Preserve where a small gazebo provides	
	great views to the west, the Town's Tudor Park, and	
	Cornell Botanic Gardens Mitchell Street Hawthorn Thicket.	
	Cornell Botanic Gardens Milleriell Street Hawthorn Thicket.	
South Hill Recreation Way	Total distance: 3.51 miles / Difficulty level(s): easy / This trail	Parking Locations
South Tim Redication Way	is open year-round but is closed during firearm deer hunting	Street and Parking Lot: Parking is provided at the end
	season.	of Juniper Drive and along the north side of Burns
	The South Hill Recreation Way is mostly built on the	Road
	abandoned railroad bed of the Cayuga and Susquehanna	nodu
	Railroad, built in 1849 to haul coal from Pennsylvania to	
	Ithaca. This multi-use trail is great for walking, jogging, nature	
	appreciation, and bicycling, and is popular for cross-country	
	skiing and snowshoeing in the winter. Many benches and	
	picnic tables are positioned at scenic points along the trail, all	
	of which are off-road. The trail runs through beautiful wooded	
	areas with many creek crossings and small gorges. The City of	
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	areas with many creek crossings and small gorges. The City of	
	areas with many creek crossings and small gorges. The City of Ithaca's Six Mile Creek Natural Area runs parallel to the trail	
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	areas with many creek crossings and small gorges. The City of Ithaca's Six Mile Creek Natural Area runs parallel to the trail with multiple small side trails that leave the South Hill Recreation Way to the east and wandering down towards the	

# **For Parents and Caregivers**

Adoptive Families Community Group of Ithaca Contact person: Nicole Dauria Email: sunonred@hotmail.com Website: http://adoptivefamiliesofithaca.weebly.com	Services Provided: This group is for families, who have been created or expanded through adoption (domestic, international, foster/adoption, transracial, special needs, 1 or 2 parent households, all are welcome!), living in or around Ithaca, NY. It is a loving space to provide support, community and share resources with one another. Has closed Facebook group and occasional social events.	Visit their Facebook page at:  https://www.facebook.com/groups/ Ithacaadoptivefamilies/  to join and get in touch with the group
Tompkins County Foster/Adoptive Family Support Group Contact Person: Jane Hall Fitzgibbon Email: jane@icmi.org Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/ Groups/129631967091375	Services Provided: This is a fostering/adoption "online support group." This group is open to foster and adoptive parents and is focused in Tompkins County, NY.	Please post your questions, tell us about your successes and struggles as a foster/adoptive parent, and share resources that might be useful.
Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHCN) Tompkins County Health Department 55 Brown Road Ithaca, NY 14850 (607) 274-6645	Children with Special Health Care Needs is a federal program that offers information and referral services concerning health and related issues to families with special needs up to the age of 21. The program guides and assists families with their social-emotional, financial, medical and transportation needs.	Free. HELP for your family is just a phone call away (607) 274-6644 Mon-Fri 8:30 - 4:30

# **For Parents and Caregivers**

Cry Baby Cinema at Cinemapolis	• Special Weekly Matinees for Grown Ups w/ Babies	Each Thursday Doors Open at 11 am
120 E. Green Street Ithaca, New York 14850 (607) 277-6115 brett@cinemapolis.org https://cinemapolis.org/	Babes-in-Arms, Strollers, and Carriers Welcome All Five Regular Movies Screen with Lower Volume and Dimmed House Lights  **Parents should remember that these are NOT "family" films. We are screening our regular slate of films for grown-ups and welcoming babes-in-arms, strollers, and carriers.	Admission for Children attending to view the film will be our usual child rate of \$7.  Babes-in-arms, infants in strollers, and carriers will be let in for free.  Adult tickets will be the usual matinee rate of \$9.
	If parents are bringing children old enough to take a seat in the theater and watch the film, they should do so only after reading up on the content of the films and ensuring it meets their own personal criteria for what is appropriate for their child.	

#### **For Parents and Caregivers**

#### **Family Navigators Partnership**

The Family Navigators Partnership is coordinated through Franziska Racker Centers and is funded through several grants through New York State.

A Family Navigator is a warm, caring person who has raised a child with social, emotional and/or behavioral challenges. They are ready to "pay it forward" and help other parents who may need support and a listening ear. They listen, make connections, collaborate, inform, help bridge communication and understanding, and build hope together.

Family Navigators are trained and supervised by Racker Centers' staff.

You may find yourself overwhelmed and want to speak with another parent who will listen and be present. A Family Navigator can support you How can a Family Navigator Help Me? Family Navigators are understanding, respectful listeners.

Family Navigators can...

Offer confidential emotional support

Help you find the information that you need in a way that is easy to understand

Help you increase your knowledge about community resources

Help you find your own voice and help you advocate for your child

Help you communicate with community providers, your child's school and can support you through the Special Education process

Share ideas about how you can care for yourself and your whole family

Connect with you on the phone or in person...whatever works best for you!

Assist you in preparing for a school meeting. Remember, you are the expert on your child, and have a very important role.

Program Coordinator:

Serena Ward

607-592-0486

or email at serenaw@rackercenters.org

The Collaborative Solutions Network brings children, youth, families, and community supports together in a comprehensive, community-wide approach that fosters social and emotional wellbeing.

# **For Parents and Caregivers**

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Family and Children's Service 521 West Seneca Street, Ithaca. (607) 273-7494 www.fcsith.org	Supportive group for grandparents raising their schoolaged grandchildren.	Call for more info
ITHACA MOPS http://ithacamops.blogspot.com/	MOPS is designed to nurture EVERY mother with children from infancy through kindergarten. Members come from all walks of life but share one desire—to be great moms because Better Moms Make A Better World! Ithaca MOPS Meetings	When: The 2nd& 4th Tuesday of every month from 9:30am to 11:30am Where: Bethel Grove Baptist Church 1763 Slaterville Rd., Ithaca, NY 14850. If you have any questions about Ithaca MOPS, please email us at IthacaMOPS@gmail.com, or call Bethel Grove Bible Church at (607)277-3333 Dates and times subject to change. Please call for accurate times and dates.
Ithaca Sensory Parents Support Group ithacasensoryparentsgroup@gmail.com, Sasha Beram, Rebecca Lesser  https:///www.rackercenters.org/Files/Pamphlet_Ithaca_Sensory_Parents_Support_Group_12%207%2015.pdf	A group to support and empower local families who have children with sensory processing challenges. The group offers many resources, social events, and services for free and no diagnosis is required to join.	Email for more information.
Mama's Comfort Camp  https://www.mamascomfortcamp.com/ mamas-comfort-camp/	Mama's Comfort Camp (MCC) is a peer to peer support network that improves maternal mental health by normalizing the hard parts of motherhood, facilitating the asking and the receiving of help, and fostering a communications culture of kindness. Mama's Comfort Camp is a refueling station for moms of kids of any age, where hundreds of mothers from around the world support each other in a loving, judgement-free safe space. Our online forum is a private Facebook group, and if you are in the Ithaca, NY, area, you can come play with us in the real world.	Visit the website or to connect.

#### **For Parents and Caregivers**

Parenting: Classes and Workshops Cornell Cooperative Extension 615 Willow Avenue, Ithaca. (607) 272-2292 Anna

Share your strengths and learn new strategies for parenting. Learn the Five Parenting Skills: Encouragement, Can Do, Choices, Self-Control and Respect Feelings.

#### **Parenting Workshops**

Raising children is a rewarding but often challenging endeavor, especially in today's society. Because parenting requires significant amounts of time, energy, and emotional strength, it is not uncommon for parents to feel stress related to this important role. Our workshops teach participants parenting skills in the areas of understanding children, how to help children learn and thrive, effective discipline and personal stress management. As parents learn how to better understand, guide, nurture, and motivate their children, they will become more effective. Parents of children of any age can benefit from these programs.

Parenting: The Hardest Job in the World / Parenting Skills Workshop Series- A FREE 8-week workshop series for every parent/caregiver. Share your strengths and learn new strategies. Learn to talk with your children using the five communication skills: Encouragement, Can Do, Choices, Self-Control and Respecting Feelings. Free classes, snacks, and childcare. Scheduled Classes in Ithaca or Dryden.

Why Do You Parent The Way You Do? / Parenting Styles Workshop Series- Many factors influence our children and how we parent. Why do we do what we do? Why do we make the decisions we make? Trained parenting facilitators lead (6) 2-hour workshop discussions on topics including: parenting styles and discipline, child development, cultural influences, and environmental issues. FREE classes, snacks and childcare. Scheduled Classes in Groton.

Free childcare provided.
Contact for schedule of upcoming classes:
Jennifer Gray
Parenting Educator
jcg33@cornell.edu
(607) 272-2292 (Voicemail #240)

#### **For Parents and Caregivers**

#### Parenting: Classes and Workshops Cornell Cooperative Extension (continued)

Parents Apart®: Helping Children Cope with Separation and Divorce - This six-hour workshop for parents who want to learn how to help their child(ren) cope during their separation and divorce is taught by therapists and attorneys. It focuses on how children react emotionally to their parents' divorce and/or separation, and what parents can do to help them adjust. Participants select either two 3-hour weeknight sessions (from 6-9 pm), or one Saturday session (from 9 am-4pm with a 1-hour break). Registration is confidential and parents of the same child(ren) are placed in different workshops. \$60 - \$100 fee. Partial and full scholarships may be available. For more details, visit our page on Parents Apart® or our Events Calendar for scheduled dates.

Strengthening Families Program - is a FREE workshop series for adult caregivers and their children aged 10 to 14 to help families to build communication skills. Adults and youth meet separately from 6:00-7:00 pm. The adult group discusses what youth this age are like, and learn skills for effectively guiding and disciplining their youth, and ways to show them love and support. Members of the youth group learn ways to handle frustration, to resist peer pressure, to appreciate their parents/caregivers, and to get along with others. The program helps youth prepare for teen years, avoid problems with drugs and alcohol, and communicate better with their families. From 7:00-8:00 pm, families practice communication skills and have fun in activities and games together. FREE childcare is provided for younger children. For more information on this curriculum, visit the Iowa State University website.

Thriving with Your Spirited Child - Learn about your child's temperament (and yours), how to develop effective strategies for dealing with temper tantrums, power struggles and other challenging behaviors in this FREE 8-week series, led by 2 trained facilitators. Scheduled dates.

#### Websites and apps for finding fun:

https://www.ithacafamilyfun.com/

http://www.ithacachild.net/current/html/AUGHOME.HTM

https://www.ithaca.com/calendar/kids/

https://eventful.com/ithaca/events/categories/family\_fun\_kids

https://www.visitithaca.com/attractions

Brought to you by:

Tompkins County Health Department Children with Special Care Needs Division 55 Brown Road Ithaca, New York 14850 (607) 274-6644

