

9 Family Friendly Things to Do In the QCA This Summer

Summer is already almost halfway over, and you may have caught yourself asking, “Now What?” If you’re floundering for things to keep your kids busy and out of trouble, we’ve got you covered! We have compiled a list of some classic QC area experiences and places to visit; Some of which are completely free!

1. Visit Vanderveer Botanical Park

Located in Davenport, this beautiful park is home to gorgeous gardens and is perfect for an afternoon of family fun. Visit the children’s playground for some play time, let your kids feed the ducks at the lagoon, or play soccer in the field. You can also check out the Enabling Garden for an interactive garden experience!

2. Drive-in Movie Theater

With just a bit of a drive outside of the Quad Cities (Blue Grass or Maquoketa), you and your family can enjoy a movie beneath the stars! Pack some blankets, folding chairs, and snacks and make movie night so much more fun!



3. Stargazing (at Niabi Zoo)

Speaking of under the stars, the Niabi Zoo holds public astronomy viewing nights where anyone can use telescopes to get a better view of the night’s sky. The viewings are completely free! Just be sure to check the weather and the Niabi Zoo Facebook page for updates on the day you’re planning on going.

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4. Go to a Farmers' Market

There are several Farmers' Markets in the QC area, including the Freight House in Davenport and Mercado on Fifth in Moline. Let your kids help you pick out some fresh vegetables for dinner, have a snack, and visit the many different vendors.

5. Visit the Putnam Museum or Family Museum

Keep your kids' brains working this summer by visiting one of these two great museums in the QC! Both have interesting exhibits and interactive spaces as well!

6. Hike at Black Hawk State Park

There's nothing like getting outside and moving. Take your family on a hike at Black Hawk State Park and trek through the beautiful forest. Your kids will feel like they are explorers and hopefully will burn through some of that energy! Be sure to bring water and bug spray.

7. Bike along the Mississippi River

With older kids, going for a bike along the Mississippi River is another great way to get moving as a family. There are great paths on both sides of the river, so take your pick, and don't forget helmets!

8. Catch a baseball game at Modern Woodmen Park

What better way to bond with your family than watching a baseball game from the stands? Check out Modern Woodmen Park and watch the River Bandits play against the beautiful background of the Centennial Bridge. Enjoy the view of the park and the river from the Ferris Wheel, and of course popcorn and a stadium hot dog will only make everything even better!

now what? Keep Connecting.

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9. Visit the TBK Sports Complex (Bett Plex)

This incredible sports complex has it all -- bowling, arcade games, laser tag, and escape rooms. You can even eat dinner at one of the nearby restaurants. Your family will be in entertainment heaven for an afternoon or evening.

now what? | **KEEP CONNECTING.**

Enjoy some QC area favorites for families and HAVE FUN!



Originally posted on the Now What? Blog on 7.16.21 The Now What? Blog served for nearly 7 years to

- 1. Normalize parents seeking support and help as a manner of child abuse prevention*
- 2. Engage community in how they can work to prevent child abuse*
- 3. Work to build resiliency in families through promotion of the 5 protective factors*

Maybe you coach a baseball team or you help care for the neighbor kids from time to time. You are investing in the safety and security of the children in our community. Because it truly does take a village to raise our children, we want to offer the tools needed to bring awareness and education to preventing child abuse.

now what? Keep Connecting.

