

State College Area Family Playgroups and Activities


Compiled by Allison D. Bohn and Bethany Heim

Created: August 2007

Group	Mission	Where	When	Frequency of Meetings	Fee	Email	Notes
CEA Centre Hall (Childbirth Education Association)	The Childbirth Education Association (CEA) is a non-profit, volunteer organization founded to make pregnancy, birth, delivery, and parenthood a more informed and satisfying experience, and is dedicated to promoting the concepts of Family-Centered Maternity Care. The CEA has been serving the Centre Region for over 35 years. The people responsible are largely volunteers.	St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Centre Hall	Playgroup Wednesdays 9-11 am	Weekly	free	814-*237-4232 http://cea.centrecounty.org/	
CEA State College (Childbirth Education Association)		Good Shepherd Catholic Church, State College	Playgroup 2 nd Thursday, 10-11am	Monthly	free	http://cea.centrecounty.org/ 814-*237-4232	
Attachment Parenting	The mission of Attachment Parenting International (API) is to promote parenting practices that create strong, healthy emotional bonds between children and their parents. We believe these practices nurture and fulfill a child's need for trust, empathy, and affection, providing a lifelong foundation for healthy, enduring relationships. Through education, support, advocacy and research, API seeks to strengthen families and increase awareness of the importance of secure attachment, ultimately helping to reduce or prevent child abuse behavioral disorders, criminal acts and other serious social problems.	Varies	Playgroup Various times – check Yahoo group	Weekly	free	http://groups.yahoo.com/group/AP_StateCollege	
Moms of Central PA	Meet friendly local moms to talk about your kids and have fun! Come to a Moms Meet up to share experiences, find advice, give support and make new friends. All moms are welcome.	Bellefonte, PA	Playgroup	Weekly	Free	www.meetups.com http://moms.meetup.com/1955/?gj=sj2	
Women's Welcome Club	Oakwood Presbyterian Church 1865 Waddle Road, State College		2 nd Wednesday 7:00 pm	Monthly		814-238-5442	

<p>Moms and More</p>	<p>Mothers and More is anon-profit organization dedicated to improving the lives of mothers through support, education and advocacy. We address mothers' needs as individuals and members of society, and promote the value of all the work mothers do.</p>	<p>Playgroups are held in the homes of moms or parks in the State College Area. Other events are posted in Newsletter.</p>	<p>Weekly Playgroups Activities Monthly Mom's Night Out Monthly Informational Speakers Monthly Plus More</p>	<p>\$40.00 per Year</p>	<p>http://www.mothersandmorestatecollege.org</p> <p>A monthly Calendar of Activities and Monthly Newsletter are available to view, as well as, information on how to join and about the organization.</p> <p>Co-Leaders: Heather Wagner and Miriam Powell</p>	<p>This is a national group.</p>
<p>University Women's Club</p>	<p>In 1949 the Faculty Women's Club was founded "to promote good fellowship among members, to furnish members with opportunities for mutually helpful association, and to further the interests of The Pennsylvania State College." We are now the University Women's Club, and today our membership includes Penn State alumnae as well as women faculty and wives of faculty. The University Women's Club offers an exciting and diverse array of interest groups, service projects, special excursions and events, and annual traditions. We have thrived on both continuity and change: several of the original interest groups are still going strong, even as new groups and activities have evolved to meet changing interests and needs. After more than fifty years, the University Women's Club remains a vital organization providing rich opportunities for women in the Penn State community to come together.</p>	<p>UWC Moms</p> <p>Meeting Times: Varies</p> <p>This group provides social opportunities for moms, children, and families such as play groups, family picnics and dinners, field trips, Mom's Night Out (Dad's Night Out too!), and community service projects. We meet at lots of different places, so newcomers can find out more about our community.</p> <p>Play Dates in the Park Day: Mondays Time: 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Place: Meet at Holmes Foster Park, Lower Level Call Katherine Fagan at 234-0714 for directions</p>	<p>\$20.00</p> <p>The fee extends to other areas of the women's group, not just to the mom's part</p>	<p>http://www.psu.edu/org/uwc/index2.html</p> <p>Coordinator for Mom's Group: Katherine Fagan (234-0714)</p>	<p>Membership is open to adult (non-student) women associated with Penn State. This includes, but is not limited to, graduates, spouses of graduates, employees, spouses of employees, faculty members, spouses of faculty members, Please refer to the <u>UWC Constitution Article I, Section II</u> for additional eligibility information.</p>	

La Leche League	Our Mission is to help mother's world wide to breastfeed through mother to mother support, encouragement, information and education and to promote a better understanding of breastfeeding as an important element in the healthy development of the baby and mother.	Patton Township Municipal Building Downstairs meeting room	3 rd Thursday 7:00 pm 1 st Monday 10:00am	Monthly	\$40.00 yearly	http://www.llusa.org/web/StateCollegePA.html http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SC_BreastfeedingMoms/ LLLStateCollege@gmail.com	The meetings have a group focused discussion and then a directed topic that provides information to new moms. Kids are welcome and have the opportunity to play with other kids during the meetings.
Centre County Babywearers	The goal of Centre County Babywearers is to promote babywearing by educating families and caregivers about the safe and proper use and many benefits of baby carriers and slings.	Patton Township Municipal Building – downstairs meeting room	2 nd Monday and 4 th Monday (informal playgroup)	Monthly	Free	http://www.centrecountybabywearers.org Leader: Jen M. and Jen D. Join the Yahoo group (link on homepage) to get meeting updates and ask questions.	This group hosts monthly informal meetings and has a lending library of baby carriers available for loan (for a small fee). Email and face to face help is always available.
Happy Valley Moms	This is an on-line Message Board that was started in February of this year. The leader, Jill, schedules weekly park playdates, mom's nights out, and other events. The Message Board allows members to "talk" to each other and view an on-line calendar.	Various Parks in the area	Wednesdays 10:30	Weekly	Free	Happyvalleymoms.com http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=347560170441	This group has online communication and meet weekly at local parks for playdates. Ages of children range from newborn through five
State College Stroller Club	State College Stroller Club is an organization dedicated to the health and well being of new moms. Each day Monday through Friday this club meets at various locations to engage in walks. All fitness levels are welcome.	Locations Vary based on membership input	Monday through Friday	Daily	Free	http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SCStrollers/	This group us an excellent and free way to maintain/get into shape, meet other moms, and demonstrate a healthy lifestyle to your children. Ages of children vary. Comparable programs nationwide cost \$500 or more a year.
Schlow Library	Schlow Centre Region Library opens doors for our diverse community members to gather and discover a wealth of ideas, the joy of reading, and the power of information by providing services and resources in a welcoming, convenient and responsive manner.	211 S. Atherton Street, State College	Daily Impromptu Playgroups Many Events for all ages! Resource Lending Library Information Workshops		Free unless posted	http://www.schlowlibrary.org/ Contact Anita: 235-7817 http://www.schlowlibrary.org/childrensdept.htm	
Barnes and		365 Benner	Thursdays	Weekly	Free	814-867-9330	

Noble Story Time		Pike, State College	and Saturdays 10:30				
Winter Indoor Playground		Park Forest Baptist Church 300 Carnegie Drive, State College	Tuesdays & Thursdays 9:00-11:00	Weekly November 14 th - Mid April	\$10.00 Donation	814-234-1900 Runs by State College School District Schedule. The park is closed when the school is closed. It is geared for children Preschool and younger.	Preschool and Younger
Centre Hall Library		109 West Beryl Street, Centre Hall, PA 16828	Story time Mondays 10:30		Free	(814) 364-2580 http://www.centrecountylibrary.org/chall.htm	Calendar on Website
Bellefonte Library		Bellefonte	Story time Tuesdays 10:30		Free	http://www.centrecountylibrary.org/programs.htm	Calendar on Website
Shaver's Creek Environmental Center	Shaver's Creek Environmental Center provides a mix of educational and recreational opportunities. We encourage you to explore our Discovery Rooms, tour the Raptor Center, walk the network of trails and boardwalk over the wetlands at the inflow of Lake Perez, and visit our gardens and bird feeder areas. We also have a bookstore and gift shop that focuses on Pennsylvania nature and serves as a resource to our members and guests.	3400 Discovery Road Petersburg, PA 16669	Many Activities Planned		FREE ADMISSION : Open Every Day from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.	http://www.outreach.psu.edu/shaverscreek/ Contact: 814-863-2000 ShaversCreek@outreach.psu.edu	Calendar of Upcoming Events listed on Web Site. There is an opportunity to become a member listed on the website.
Fun Unleashed		Fun Unleashed is located at 339 Benner Pike	Jungle Tube Playground--\$5.95 Laser Tag--\$5.50 for 12 min Video and Prize Redemption Games Rainforest Café Birthday Parties Parent Accessible		Fun Unleashed is open Monday-Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. They are closed on Sunday.	814-238-8730 http://www.happyvalleyfamily.com/news/Fun_Unleashed.asp	Ages 2-12
YMCA	The State College Area Family YMCA is a charitable non-profit human service organization dedicated to developing the full potential of every individual in the community by offering member and program services that build strong kids, strong families, and a strong community.	State College	Many Activities including Prenatal, Mom and Baby Fitness Classes, Child Focused Classes		Varies	www.scaymca.org/	

Developmental Screenings	Schlow Library 211 S. Atherton Street, State College	1 st Friday 9-12	Monthly	Free		Walk-Ins								
Kindermusik	<p>In a Kindermusik class, educators lead a group of parents and their children through joyful activities, using music and movement. Parents learn more about their child's unique developmental process, and the shared learning experience creates a unique bond as the child associates learning with fun, musical play.</p> <p>The learning process continues at home, guided by specially designed books, CDs, and games.</p> <p>Movement and dance activities improve coordination and balance.</p> <p>One-on-one parent and child interaction nurtures self-esteem.</p> <p>Music-making and music listening activities develop self-discipline, as well as critical and creative thinking skills.</p>	State College Area	Type of Classes:: <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Village</td> <td>Infants to 1 1/2 years</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Our Time</td> <td>1 1/2 to 3 1/2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Imagine That</td> <td>3 year old to 5 years</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Young Child</td> <td>4 1/2 years to 7 years</td> </tr> </table>		Village	Infants to 1 1/2 years	Our Time	1 1/2 to 3 1/2	Imagine That	3 year old to 5 years	Young Child	4 1/2 years to 7 years	Kindermusik at Robert M. Sides Family Music Center 1801 North Atherton Street, State College TEL 1-888-858-5007 EMILY BAXTER Email: ebaxter@alumni.northwestern.edu Home Page: http://makingmusik.com/emilybaxter Phone: (814) 404-9011 STATE COLLEGE, PA 16803 USA Classes: Imagine That!® Qur Time® Village® FEN-FEN LIN Email: fenfenlin99@yahoo.com Home Page: http://www.makingmusik.com/Fen-Fen Phone: (814) 238-4657 STATE COLLEGE, PA 16803 USA Classes: Adventures™ Imagine That!® Our Time® Village® Young Child PATRICIA LOUDENSLAGER Email: MPLOUDENSLAGER@EARTHLINK.NET Phone: (717) 935-2184 BELLEVILLE, PA 17004 USA Classes: Adventures™ Imagine That!® Our Time® Village	Fees vary with instructor Classes from Sept.-January (15 weeks) average around \$185 including materials
Village	Infants to 1 1/2 years													
Our Time	1 1/2 to 3 1/2													
Imagine That	3 year old to 5 years													
Young Child	4 1/2 years to 7 years													

Additional Information and Contacts

<u>Birth</u>	<u>Child Care Information</u>	<u>Regional Parks</u>
Childbirth Education Association 232 4232 La Leche League 867 4696;353 8426 Lamaze Natural Childbirth Preparation 862 0159 Bradley Method of Natural Childbirth 237 3042	Better Kid Care Help Line 863 5880 Child Care Information of Centre County 231 1352 Penn State University Extension child Care Provider Help Line 800 859 834	http://crpr.centreconnect.org/parks/detail/s/pasrk_locations.html
<u>Center Daily Times Family Pages</u>	<u>Regional Information Source</u>	
A complete Resource for Families listing by day activities in area www.centredaily.com	http://www.happyvalley.com/ www.statecollegecentral.com http://www.happyvalleyfamily.com/	
<u>Area Business that support kid activities</u>	<u>Web Page of Kids Stuff</u>	
Stuffingtown Michaels—Saturday kids Nittany Gym-drop in classes and reg. sched. Lowes- kid workshops	Is updated weekly Statecollegekids.com	

**Much of the information taken regarding these groups was copied directly from the organizations' website or published material. I in no way claim this to be a representation of my own printed work or thoughts. For more

information on these groups please visit their websites or contact the group for more detailed published information regarding their organization.

Kids Eat Free

Copied directly from website www.happyvalley.com

RESTAURANT	CUISINE	ADDRESS	PHONE	KIDS EAT FREE DEAL
EVERY DAY				
Cici's Pizza	Pizza	1653 N. Atherton St.	237-6001	Kids under 3 eat free
Hooters	Wings	538 E. College Ave.	238-5070	Kids under 12 eat free
Hoss's Steak & Sea House	Steak	1450 N. Atherton St.	234-4009	Kids 5 & under eat free at the soup and salad bar
SUNDAYS				
The Corner Room	American	100 W. College Ave.	237-3051	Kids eat free from 3-8 p.m.
Eat 'N Park	American	1617 N. Atherton St.	231-8558	Breakfast buffet and fruit bar, Sunday brunch buffet, and soup and salad bar: Kids 10 & under eat for half price. Kids 5 & under eat for free from buffet when they're with an adult who has purchased the buffet or soup and salad bar. One free kids' buffet/soup and salad bar per adult.
Gingerbread Man	American	130 Heister St.	237-0361	Kids 12 & under eat free from 11:30 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Hi-Way Pizza	Pizza	1688 N. Atherton St. 428 Westerly Pkwy.	237-0375 237-1074	Kids eat free with an accompanying adult dinner, for immediate family members (excludes teams and birthday parties). Kids can choose from the buffet or a modified kids menu.
Quaker Steak & Lube	Wings/ American	2200 N. Atherton St.	234-8900	Kids eat free from 3-8 p.m.
TUESDAYS				
Baby's Burgers & Shakes	Historic 1950s Diner	131 S. Garner St.	234-4776	Kids 12 & under eat free (Two children per adult, kid's meal selections only)
Denny's Restaurant	Family	1860 N. Atherton St.	238-1644	Kids 10 & under eat free from 4-10 p.m. (Up to two free kids' entrees from kids' menu per one regularly priced adult entrée purchase)
Down Under Steakhouse	Steak	One Country Club Ln. (in Toftrees Resort)	234-3053	Kids eat free with the purchase of an adult entrée
P.J. Harrigan's	American	1450 S. Atherton St. (in Ramada Inn & Conference Center)	235-3009	Kids 12 & under eat free from the children's menu
Ponderosa	Steak	1630 S. Atherton St.	237-5244	Kids 12 & under eat free
WEDNESDAYS				
T.G.I. Fridays	American	1215 N. Atherton St.	861-5540	Kids eat free when accompanied by an adult

This list was compiled by two moms in the State College Area. It is not meant to be an exhaustive list. If there is a group not listed you would like to share with us, or if information about your group is incorrect please contact me at bethany_71@yahoo.com so I can make corrections. The intention of this list is to help new moms in the area connect with other moms. After joining several groups I realize the importance of mom to mom support and wished to share it with as many other persons as possible.

I'd like to thank Allison for taking the initiative to begin a spread sheet of groups in the area and for allowing me to expand and add to that list. I'd also like to thank all of the leaders and members of the groups for their hard work and helping to create a community of support. I've benefited tremendously from your efforts.

---Bethany