

Kid's Area Guide

Every great festival also features a kid's area; some festivals are even known for the strength of theirs (such as [Kidsapalooza](#) in Chicago, [Flagstaff Hullabaloo](#) in Arizona, and [Austin Kiddie Limits](#) in Texas). And it's not just rides and games – many kid's areas feature hands-on learning, up and coming young bands, and other unique interactive elements to keep the little ones entertained.



[Puppets at Flagstaff Hullabaloo](#)

If you wish to make your festival family-friendly, the following is a general guide for what you should consider including:

- Type of activities that work best with kids



- Interactive elements
 - Temporary Tattoos
 - Hairdos

- T-shirt printing
- Parades
- Hip Hop Recordings
- Art walls / murals
- Giveaways – healthy food, drinks, toys, apparel



- Social playscapes / hands on learning

- Drum circles
- Lego pits
- musical instrument petting zoos
- Rides
 - Bouncy Houses
 - Carnival-style Rides
- Storytime with well-known artists doing the reading



- Kid Competitions

- Egg toss
- Fun runs / walks
- Costume Contest
- Karaoke
- Having a good variety of options from toddlers to teens

- Booking the right kind of talent / what keeps their attention
 - School of Rock
 - Bands with props for younger kids
 - Bands fronted by teens
 - DJs that cater to children
 - Puppets / kid's theater
- Have special areas with:
 - Family restrooms
 - Breastfeeding –friendly zones (if required)
 - Diaper changing stations
 - Shaded areas
 - Misting / Cool down zones
 - Kiddie pools / splash pads
- Questions to consider:
 - What sort of budget should be considered?
 - How much overt sponsorship is acceptable?
 - What age should kids be free?
 - What are the best hours of operation given the rest of the festival's hours?
 - How do you deal with potential hazards / injuries / liability?
 - What sort of marketing should there be?



The bouncy house area at Flagstaff Hullabaloo