

7 Awesome Family Friendly Activities to Celebrate Spring

DID YOU KNOW...

...that Maypoles were originally used in the Gaelic festival of Beltane, now called May Day? The maypole is decorated with flowers, and ribbons, and people dance around it to mark the beginning of summer and bring good fortune and fertile land.



Whether you're looking for something low key or more adventurous, there's plenty of fun things do during the month of May:

- **1.** Explore the Farmers' Market Not only is this an opportunity to pick up fresh, seasonal produce, but it's also a great way to explore your town, meet new people, and support small businesses.
- **2.** Paint Flowerpots whether you keep them to decorate your own garden or patio or give them away as gifts, this is a great way to indulge our creative sides while making something practical.
- **3.** <u>Build a Fairy Garden</u> these adorable miniature scenes are easy to make and placing them in your yard can surprise and delight guests when they see them.
- **Get Out Into Nature** This is a great way to connect with each other while enjoying the beauty of our natural surroundings. Make sure you bring along plenty of water, snacks, and bug spray, as well as proper attire for any kind of weather.
- **5.** <u>Head to the Zoo or Nature Preserve</u> nature preserves often have guided tours and educational programs that are perfect for families who want to learn more about their environment.
- **Explore Your Town Like You're Tourists** From new restaurants or boutiques that recently opened in your area to special events happening in your community—spend some time discovering what makes your town unique!
- 7. <u>Go Camping</u> Many campgrounds offer amenities such as running water and electricity so that you can enjoy all the comforts of home while still enjoying the beauty of nature around you.



Spring Cleaning Tips For People That Hate Cleaning

- 1. <u>Make a Plan</u> Tackle your home room by room and have a check list for each room. Make sure you determine all the supplies you are going to need and get them ahead of time, so you won't have to run to the store mid-cleaning to get anything.
- 2. <u>Clear Out the Clutter</u> Make 4 piles as you sort through and organize your rooms: trash, give-away, put into storage, and put away. Take the trash out ASAP before your kids decide they still want those broken toys, and either host a yard sale or take the give-aways to your local charity.
- 3. Put the Whole Family to Work As they say, many hands make light work (unless you have a toddler) so get the whole family helping to make the job go faster, and to spend time together tackling a project. Get some music going and create incentives to get the job done in a timely manner.
- 4. You Don't Have to Clean the Whole House in One Day Time is a factor in our busy lives, so break the spring cleaning up into more manageable chunks. Work room by room, or spend 15 minutes a day, or take a specific section of the house like the bookshelves or kitchen cupboards.
- 5. <u>Clean Your Home Top to Bottom (Literally!)</u> Start your cleaning at the top, like dusting light fixtures and the tops of cupboards and work your way to the floor. This prevents the need to clean things twice.

WEIRD, BUT TRUE!

President Franklin D.
Roosevelt's Good Neighbor
Policy passed in 1933 to
improve relations with Latin
American countries and
paved the way for Cinco de
Mayo to become a more
mainstream American holiday
(and now it's bigger here than
in Mexico).







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