



THINGS TO DO IN PARIS

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The summer holidays are coming up, trips are being booked and some of you might be visiting this lovely city of mine. I thought it would be fun to do a write-up of my favourite things to do in Paris with kids this summer.

- The [Pompidou Centre](#) has a relatively new area dedicated to kids - a great way to introduce children to modern art.
- Do look out for the [merry-go-rounds](#) that are spread all round the city; you will find anything from flamboyant 2-story constructions looking like a rococo folie to retro seventies space capsules held together with tape.
- Check out the [Anish Kapoor](#) exhibit at the Grand Palais. A) because it is a cool building, built for the universal exhibition in 1900 and never taken down. B) because the exhibit is fascinating for children and parents alike.
- The [Jardin des Plantes](#) is a sure hit with all children. If it is raining the [Galerie de l'Evolution](#) is a great natural history

museum. It is not as big as in other cities but it is very well laid out and entertaining. If the sun is shining the [Menagerie](#) is a lovely, old-fashioned city zoo.

- If you are looking for some nature, Paris has two woods accessible by metro, otherwise known as the lungs of Paris. The [bois de Vincennes](#) is on the eastern side of the city and the bois de Boulogne on the western side of Paris. The [Bois de Boulogne](#) plays host to the [Jardin d'Acclimatation](#), a place I drag every single one of my visitors to.
- A bit off the beaten track, but worth visiting, is the huge [metal merry-go-round](#) in the [104](#), an arts centre in the north-east of Paris (Paris is, by the way, relatively small, so do not compare the distances to London or New York). It is a massive welded structure and looks amazing. It is also really fun for kids to have a ride on.
- [Buses](#) are frequent and easy to get on with pushchairs (there is a dedicated push chair area in the centre of the bus). It is possibly the easiest way to get around, if you are travelling with small kids.
- Do try the crazy syrups that French kids drink in cafés. One favourite is *Grenadine* (pomegranate) which makes the drink blood red and the other is *Menthe* (mint) which makes it taste like sweet toothpaste - kids love it over here.

Voilà, just a couple of ideas. Hope you enjoy your visit if you are planning to come...

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