PROGRAMS

Madison Children's Museum offers a variety of drop-in programs, free with museum admission.

Early Explorers Playgroup is designed for our youngest visitors. We provide a space for infants and toddlers (2 years and under) and their caregivers to explore and play together: Engage in activities that support child development and connect with other parents and caregivers.

Other programs for infants and toddlers include **Messy Art with Miss Laurie, Music with Junebug**, and more! Babies and toddlers, supported by caregivers, are also welcome in other programs for children of all ages.

Times and locations vary seasonally. **See MadisonChildrensMuseum.org/events** for the current schedule.

EVENTS

Exclusively for kids three and under (and their grown-ups), our baby parties offer baby-specific activities and the chance to connect with other parents. Membership gets you free, reduced-fee, or exclusive admission to the following events: Baby New Year's Eve, Baby Beach Party, Baby's First Halloween, and Member Mornings.

VISITING THE MUSEUM

The best times to visit with little ones are weekdays 9–11 am and 2:30–4 pm. Group visits are usually gone by the afternoon.

STORAGE

Self-storage space for coats and strollers is available on the first floor across from the main elevator. Please collapse strollers to store. Lockers are available for $0.25. You are also free to use your stroller throughout the building.

QUIET/NURSING SPACES

You may breastfeed anywhere you feel comfortable in the museum. There is also a private comfort room available for nursing on the first floor. Ask front desk staff for entry. The Cozy Cottage in the Wildernest is a quiet spot to take a rest, have a snack, or nurse (when available).

RESTROOMS

Restrooms with diaper changing stations are located on each floor of the museum near the elevator. Diapers and wipes are available for free at the front desk. Limited sizes available.

LEARN THROUGH PLAY

Play matters. It's how we learn to invent, share, and explore. Madison Children's Museum bursts with chances to play and learn: to stretch bodies and minds, engage all five senses, encounter new spaces and ideas, develop social skills, and have fun.

BABIES BELONG HERE

Madison Children's Museum offers a stimulating, sensory-rich environment that encourages babies and toddlers to observe, wonder, and explore—activities that support critical development and growth of young brains and bodies.

CARE FOR CAREGIVERS

The early months of a child's life can be an intense and isolating time for new parents and other caregivers. MCM is a welcoming destination, affording adults the chance to meet other parents in a friendly, judgment-free zone.

madison children's museum

MadisonChildrensMuseum.org/ftp
100 N. Hamilton St., on the Capitol Square
(608) 256-6445

Hours: Wednesday-Sunday, 9 am–4 pm
Free admission: Thursday evening, 4–8 pm
Check our website for a complete calendar of events

madison children's museum

BABY GUIDE

Visiting with children birth to 18 months



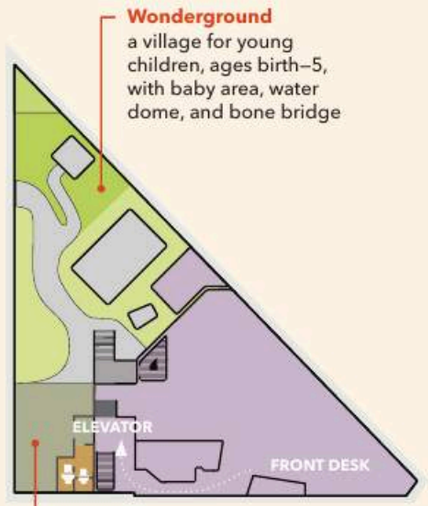
Learn Through Play

FLOOR BY FLOOR

There is something for babies to discover in every corner of the museum! Here are a few places we know babies love to explore.

WONDERGROUND (OUTSIDE)

Wonderground: Littles will like the gentle slopes and ramps and the short yellow slide. Have a tea party in the outdoor kitchen. Wood chips are delicious!





FIRST FLOOR

Community Concourse: Discover something new with every pull of the secret drawers at the front desk.

The Lunch Box: Take a seat and catch your breath. You and your little one can have a snack from our cafe or one you brought from home.

Seymore's Adventures: Dive into this quiet crawling and exploration space. Practice pulling up and standing. Play in the giant fish or catch little ones on a pole.

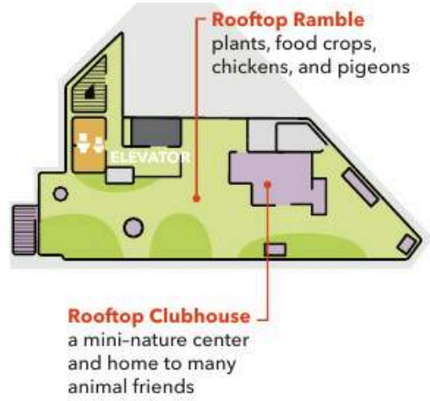
WILDERNEST (LL)

Wildernest: Explore the textures of the brush wall. Practice crawling and walking up and down the small bridge and stairs. Discover secret crawl spaces. Scoop and pour in the water dome.

Pillow Pond (in Wildernest): Take a rest in this space just for babies. Watch the butterflies flutter. Try out a puzzle or read a book together.

Huts/Houses (in Wildernest): Take care of the Wildernest babies, make some dinner in the glowing fireplace, dress like a woodland creature, or play with puppets.

Urb Garden (open seasonally, accessible through the Wildernest): plants. Explore the greenhouse. Splash in the water. Enjoy the view.



ROOFTOP

Rooftop Ramble: Get some fresh air and sunshine! Explore the gardens. Discover the colors and textures of nature. Dip your toes in the pond.

Clubhouse & Chicken Coop: See turtles, snakes, and fish. Say hello to the chickens. Listen to the birds in the trees.

SECOND FLOOR

Art Studio: Use large crayons or tear paper. Paint and erase creations... and then start all over again! Play with and sort different materials. Feel new textures.

Nice Age Trail: Crawl through the lily pads, collect some pollen, snuggle in the sandhill crane nest ,or walk through the cave with the sleeping bear...

