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Sarah Cascone  
*The Best Museums for Kids*  
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# The Best Museums for Kids: A Complete Guide to More Than 30 Museums in New York

Got little ones in tow? Here is a comprehensive guide to New York's museums.



The 81st Street Studio for children at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, designed by KOKO Architecture and Design. Photo: by Carrington Spires, courtesy of the Met.

With all this culture at their fingertips, the city's children are growing up with access to all kinds of exhibitions at what turns out to be largely family-friendly museums. But as a parent—whether you're visiting or raising your kids here—how does one navigate the New York museum scene?

Some museums are certainly more welcoming to children than others. Most have free admission for young children or even teens—and at the Whitney, up to age 25! But don't try bringing your kid to the Frick before their tenth birthday, or you'll be turned away.

It's worth noting that the city does have a quartet of museums specifically geared toward children: The [Children's Museum of Manhattan](#), the [Sugar Hill Children's Museum of Art and Storytelling](#), the [Brooklyn Children's Museum](#), and the [Jewish Children's Museum](#) in Brooklyn.

But if you're thinking about taking the little ones to a museum for general audiences, it's best to know what you're getting yourself into.

This is part three of a three-part series surveying "The Best Museums in New York for Kids." [Part one](#) includes a look at the best museums for families around the city. Part [two](#) includes a guide to specialized museums that also cater to families.

## How to Read Our Museums Guide

Our emojis will tell you what kind of amenities you can expect, whether that is changing tables in the men's room too (dad says thank you), a special children's center, or a kids' menu at the museum cafe that your little one is sure to love.

 visitor age restrictions

 accessible entrance

 stroller parking

 stroller restrictions

 changing tables

 changing tables in both mens' and ladies' rooms, or in gender-neutral bathrooms

 lactation room

 family/children's programming or exhibitions

 children's visitor guide

 children's center

👨‍👩‍👧 family membership

🍔 child-friendly dining

## **Swiss Institute**



Family Hours at the Swiss Institute. Photo: courtesy of the Swiss Institute, New York.



Staff can store strollers as needed, and the changing table is in a gender-neutral bathroom. There are family hours with art-making workshops the second Saturday of each month, as well as other free programs and activities geared toward children and families.

*The Swiss Institute is located at 38 St. Marks Place, New York. Admission is free.*