

Music Class

Anything taught by dynamic Penn grad **Marcia Goldschmidt Kratz** of the **Kids' Music Round** outposts in Cherry Hill and Mount Laurel. "Extraordinary," one mom raves. "She's not afraid to dump a million toys on the floor and let them play, and the kids get to strum her guitar, and she knows every single name by the end of the first class." >>> 856-278-0473, kids-musicround.com.



Dance School

At **Premiere Dance Studio** in Pottstown, co-owner Patti Croner is the mother and wife of Lifetime's *Your Mama Don't Dance* reality show winners Noelle and Doug Croner—and this is where Noelle learned her moves. >>> 1494 North Charlotte Street, Pottstown, 484-945-0550, danceatpremiere.com.

Outing With Mom

Longwood Gardens. Thinking garden clubs and blue-haired old ladies? Try fireworks fountain displays, a new indoor chil-

dren's garden, glam treehouses to explore, the chance to build a tree fort, and ice-cream concerts. >>> 1001 Longwood Road, Kennett Square, 610-388-1000, longwoodgardens.org.

Outing With Dad

Nicholas Smith Trains, in Broomall, has been cuckoo for choo-choos for 99 years. Great train displays, every imaginable brand, and a toy shop, too. >>> 2343 West Chester Pike, Broomall, 610-353-8585, nstrains.com.

Mom Hang

The Friday morning **New Moms Group** at **Ali's Wagon** in Fairmount is so well-attended, they have to beg you to leave your stroller at home. >>> 2017 Fairmount Avenue, 215-787-0611, aliswagon.com.

Future Nobel Prize-Winner Shop

Spectrum Scientifics owner Matt Kriebel is seriously into geek toys—and unrepentant about it. He's filled his shop with telescopes, chemistry sets, robotics, meteorology devices, and a host of other stuff that makes science seem fun. Snap up a baking-soda submarine. You know you want it. >>> 4403 Main Street, Manayunk, 215-667-8309, spectrum-scientifics.com.

CLASSIC

The Philadelphia Zoo Place to Spend a Sunny Day >>> Until you've really seen a lion, you haven't seen a lion, no matter how many hours of Animal Planet you sit through. And when that lion unleashes a thunderous ROAR, the African plains abruptly become a real place where real animals (and real people) live—and die. Ditto for polar bears and giant tortoises. Still, no matter how many millions the Zoo pours into its exhibits, the reason it exists is to hold living creatures captive for human amusement—which is the sort of conundrum that can get a kid thinking. So be sure to explain why the elephants are on the way out. >>> 3400 West Girard Avenue, 215-243-1100, philadelphiazoo.org.



Jump-Start for Your Future Reality-TV Star

A whole shop full of tiaras, magic wands and crystal slippers awaits at **Little Fairy Godmother**, plus princess-themed birthday-party packages with makeup, hair styling, manicures and runway fashion shows for your princess and friends. Tyra, is that you? >>> 613 Bethlehem Pike, Glenside, 215-402-9474, littlefairygodmothers.com.

New Destination

The three-times-the-size reincarnation of the **Please Touch**

Museum in Fairmount Park's Memorial Hall is the best marriage ever of site—a civic white elephant left over from the 1876 Centennial Exhibition—and content. It doesn't open till October, but when it does, you'll find new attractions such as a replica arm and torch of the Statue of Liberty (assembled, full-size, out of toys and trash), flying machines, the historic Woodside Park Dentzel Carousel, and a down-the-rabbit-hole Wonderland with a maze and riddles, plus familiar favorites like the SEPTA bus, at the breathtaking new digs. >>> 4231 North Concourse Drive, 215-963-0667, pleasetouch-museum.org.