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The Best NYC Kid Destinations that Opened in 2015

DEC 22 2015 BY RAVEN SNOOK



If NYC had a Facebook page, its Year in Review would go something like this: debuted three new museums, two cat cafes and one [seriously jaw-dropping carousel](#). And that's not all! Dozens of [cool kid attractions](#) opened in New York City in 2015 and we've rounded up the 15 best new destinations to add to your [family bucket list](#).

Read on to see how many you've already visited (they're all over the five boroughs, yes, even the Bronx and Staten Island), and then make an early New Year's resolution to check out the rest of these must-dos [over holiday break](#) (or, for seasonal spots, in 2016). Don't forget to post pics on Facebook to make your out-of-town friends Grinch-green with envy.

New Museums and Culture Destinations

[Whitney Museum of American Art](#) — Meatpacking District

Towering between the [High Line](#) and the Hudson River, this world-class museum opened in May and is breathtaking inside and out. Families can check out its thought-provoking exhibits and marvel at gorgeous views from its large terraces. If possible, plan your visit around one of the Whitney's frequent [family programs](#), including stroller tours, family fun fests, open studio hours, Whitney Wees workshops and sketching sessions. FREE for children under age 18

[Staten Island Museum at Snug Harbor](#) — Staten Island

This longtime SI culture hub opened a second location in a landmarked [Snug Harbor](#) building in September. School-age kids can explore rich exhibits about art, natural science and local history. Highlights include the life-size replica of a prehistoric mastodon crashing through a wall and an immersive 3D movie about the borough's evolution. FREE for children under age 13

[Sugar Hill Children's Museum of Art & Storytelling](#) — Harlem

Tots can enjoy colorful art and stories, or create their own at this 17,000-square-foot interactive culture spot, which debuted in October. Child-size tables invite kids to make masterpieces, while books beg to be taken to reading nooks carved into the hallway. Frequent readings and open-studio sessions let children learn from the pros. FREE for children under age 9

[Environmental Education Center](#) — Dumbo

Kids can get up close and personal with East River critters at Brooklyn Bridge Park's Environmental Education Center, which opened in September. A variety of interactive stations and programming school budding scientists in the ecology and history of the surrounding waterfront habitat. The 250-gallon, fish-filled aquarium and a touch tank where children can feel aquatic plants, shells and creatures are highlights. Note: Closed December 24-January 3, so check it out in 2016! FREE