

Three FREE Waterfront Activities the Kids Will Positively Love!!!

It's hard enough finding things to do that the younger kids will like, never mind FREE things. So here are three time-tested FREE activities that youngsters will not only like, but you can go do them over and over again (Okay, but don't get carried away and at least wait a few days in between!!).



Christopher Columbus Park Playground on Atlantic Avenue. All kinds of tunnels and swinging things, with sand on the bottom. Challenging climbing activities, including a crow's nest. Sure, it can get a little crowded, but that just adds some excitement. FREE!!

The Seal Tank at the New England Aquarium on Central Wharf. Look behind the ticket kiosk outside the Aquarium and see the Seal Tank! Watch them swim, dive and sometimes even talk to you (at least I think that's what they are doing). You can even watch them learning tricks at various times throughout the day. FREE!!! You don't have to pay admission for the Aquarium to see this and it's open 24/7 - even when the Aquarium is closed.

The Harbor Ferry to Charlestown. A 10 minute harbor cruise from Long Wharf to the Charlestown Navy Yard where "Old Ironsides" is berthed. But wait a minute – I thought it was free stuff?? Well, believe it or not, kids under 12 ARE Free. Of course, you parents will have to ante up \$1.70 for yourselves, but we think you can afford that. Not exactly free, but we think this deserves special consideration!! Boats usually run about every half hour and enjoy the spectacular Boston skyline on the way. You can find schedule specifics under mbta.com.

- Alan Maltzman of BostonCityWalks.com