

READER TIP

The Zimmer Children's Museum: Can't say enough about this fabulous place. From the upstairs play theater with costumes and a real small airplane to explore, to the downstairs play diner, grocery store, temple, computer music games and a real ambulance, kids can play for a long time in here! And there's a special little padded play area for the 2 and under set, a water play area, wooden blocks and a little room full of books and puppets. Really just a great, fun indoor place to play.

— Dorothy Fahn, Los Angeles

HONORABLE MENTION: UNDER THE SEA – Explore bouncers, climbing structures and slides in this underwater-themed play area for kids ages 9 months – 14 years old. Floor-to-ceiling murals depict sea life as well as mermaids and pirates. A separate Baby Corner houses educational play equipment. A foosball table, air hockey and basketball shoot keep older kids entertained. Bring your own food or buy pizza at the counter. ▶▶ \$9 for kids. 10 am – 6 pm Mon. – Fri. Weekends reserved for private parties. ▶▶ For locations, visit www.undertheseaindoorplayground.com



SHOP WITH YOUR TOT

WESTFIELD SANTA ANITA – Buzzing with kid zones, this mall's play area beckons little ones to climb, leap, slide and ride on soft-edged critters and cars or to take a spin on a cool coin-powered rocket or motorcycle. Relax on the beautiful two-level carousel or let the kids engineer the train. Kid-friendly stops abound from food and kids' clothing to Picture People, Game Stop, AMC theater, and Dave and Buster's.

• **HOT TIP:** Jump n' Jammin' features J-Care Monday through Thursday for up to four hours. You can leave your kids supervised for some shopping or break time while they burn some healthy physical energy! \$10 per hour for a two-hour

minimum, sibling discount of \$6. ▶▶ 400 S. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia; 626-445-6255; www.westfield.com/santaanita

WESTFIELD TOPANGA – Here's a mall that is dialed into what kids want, but its secret is the way it caters to parents. Its kid-inclusive pocket delights the senses with an interactive play area, Victorian carousel, kid-friendly eateries and boutiques that

sport pint-sized fashion trends. Close to parking and Target, this mall hosts the ultimate family lounge complete with private nursing rooms, changing area and its own tot-sized toilet! There's something for everybody here.

• **HOT TIP:** Join the Stroller Fit Program at Westfield Topanga Monday through Saturday from 8:45-9:45 a.m. Target those "mommy muscles" while keeping your child happy! This is a great way to get or stay in shape while you and your child make friends and build community. ▶▶ 6600 Topanga Canyon, Canoga Park; 818-594-8732; www.westfield.com/topanga



DEM BONES

LOS ANGELES COUNTY MUSEUM OF ART – Besides its vast art collection, LACMA offers an array of family-friendly activities, from craft-making at the



The Boone Children's Gallery is one of the special treasures found at LACMA.