

AUSTRALIA

FAMILY STAGE

PARENT GUIDE

AIRBOTIX FAMILY GUIDES

Gold Coast 5–8 year olds

A practical list of holiday parent–child activities

It's not a matter of "how to choose". This page directly lists the specific activities, locations, fees, ages, reservation methods and what parents should prepare on the Gold Coast.

Winter 2026 verified edition

Gold Coast Parents of 5–8 year olds



01

Let's take a look at this event map first

This listing was verified on **10 July 2026 (AEST)** by the organizer and the government page. The winter school holidays are coming to an end, and some single events only have their last performances; they remain in the list so that parents can see clearly "what exactly this project does" and check the schedule for the next season through the same official portal.

- **Coomera North:** Prioritize What's On Gold Coast for sports camps, community events and library sessions.
- **Ashmore/Benowa, North Central District:** Free Coding & STEM at TechEd Academy; Family Pantomime at Spotlight Theater.
- **Central District Southport / Bundall / Carrara:** HOTA parent-child arts; Gold Coast Sports and Leisure Center sports camp.
- **Southern District Palm Beach and Nature Reserve:** Gold Coast Recreation Precinct full-day project; NaturallyGC natural activities.
- **Multiple locations across the city:** Gold Coast Libraries, Active & Healthy, and NaturallyGC will be distributed to different suburbs according to specific events.

First, exclude items that are too far one way by address, and then look at age and content. The Gold Coast spans a large distance from north to south, and the activity itself is free, which does not mean that the transfer cost is low.

02

Free: Gold Coast Libraries "Game On!"

Suitable for families looking for indoor, free, and take-away works.

- **Location:** Multiple libraries on the Gold Coast. Specific branches and sessions are subject to the reservation page.
- **Recommended age:** 6–12 years old; 5-year-old children are not within the official recommended age, so you need to check with the branch library first.
- **Fee:** Free.
- **2026 Winter Dates:** June 28 - July 10.
- **What kids actually do:** Build a mini stadium diorama, make sports-themed crafts, design world sports flags, build a rolling ball track, and participate in a sports-themed painting table.
- **What parents should do:** First choose a branch library close to home; confirm whether the library is drop-in or requires an appointment; it will be more convenient to apply for library membership in advance.
- **Official Entrance:** <https://www.whatsongoldcoast.au/All-events/Gold-Coast-Libraries-Game-On-School-Holiday-Program>
↗

Why it's worth including: It doesn't just allow children to "listen to stories", but also involves building, designing and testing actions; for children who are participating in holiday activities for the first time, the investment cost is very low.

03

Free: NaturallyGC Kids Winter Holiday Program

Ideal for kids who love animals, woods, observation and outdoor exploration.

- **Location:** Different natural areas on the Gold Coast; the meeting point for each activity is different, please refer to the reservation page.
- **Age:** Each event is different. You must check the items one by one when registering. You cannot default that all items are suitable for 5 years old.
- **Fee:** Free, but places are limited.
- **2026 Winter Dates:** June 28–July 11; registration opens June 28.
- **What the kids actually do:** Official programs include guided bushwalks, wildlife encounters, and nature education and landcare activities.
- **Reservation:** Registration is required, you cannot go directly to the venue to try your luck.
- **Preparation for parents:** Closed shoes, drinking water, hat, sun protection and clothing suitable for walking; first check the activity page to see if an adult is required to accompany you at all times.
- **Official entry point:** <https://www.whatsongoldcoast.au/All-events/NaturallyGC-Kids-Winter-Holiday-Program> ↗

Parent Reminder: The “location” of a nature program is more important than the name of the activity. Open the map before booking to see parking, walking distance, restroom and weather cancellation rules.

04

Free or Low Cost: Active & Healthy Winter Program

Suitable for families who want to get active together as a family and don't want to send their children to the classroom alone.

- **Location:** Multiple parks and community venues across the city, specific addresses will be announced by individual events.
- **Fee:** Free or low cost.
- **2026 Winter Dates:** June 27–July 12.
- **What the children actually do:** Different sessions revolve around sports, outdoor activities and family participation; you must enter the project page to select the specific session, and you cannot just look at the general title.
- **Parent-child or not:** The overall project is clearly targeted at families, children and young people, but age and adult participation requirements must still be confirmed for each individual activity.
- **Official Portal:** <https://www.whatsongoldcoast.au/All-events/Active-and-Healthy-Winter-School-Holiday-Program-1> ↗

The most practical usage: After opening the Explore program, first filter for shows within 20–30 minutes from home, and then look at the cost and age. Don't let your children pick the farthest project among the city's projects first.

05

Free: Ashmore Coding & STEM Workshop

Suitable for families who want their children to try digital creation, but do not want to sign up for a long-term course directly.

- **Location:** TechEd Academy, Suite 15A, Ashmore Plaza, 160 Cotlew Street, Ashmore QLD 4214.
- **Duration:** 90 minutes.
- **Fee:** Free.
- **2026 Winter Sessions:** July 6, July 10, 10:00–11:30.
- **What kids actually do:** Choose experiences in the Game Building & Coding, 3D Modeling & Digital Design, Virtual Reality & AI Prompting areas.
- **Equipment:** Computers, keyboards and digital tools are provided on site.
- **Reservation:** Must make an appointment in advance, each child needs an independent workstation.
- **Official entry point:** <https://www.whatsongoldcoast.au/All-events/Free-Kids-School-Holiday-Coding-and-STEM-Workshop>
↗

An additional question when registering: The public page does not indicate a specific minimum age limit. Within the span of 5–8 years old, parents should first confirm with the organizer whether their children can use the keyboard independently, whether there is adult guidance in each area, and whether parents can observe.

06

Parent-child art: HOTA ArtLab textile art

Suitable for children aged 6–8 who are willing to work with their parents to create a take-home project.

- **Location:** HOTA The Studio, 135 Bundall Road, Surfers Paradise QLD 4217.
- **Recommended Age:** 6–12 years; 5 years old is not among the official recommended ages.
- **FEE:** \$20.
- **2026 Winter Session:** July 11, 10:30, 1 hour.
- **What children actually do:** Understand how natural materials are made into ink and dye, experiment with mark making on fabric, and complete an organic textile design that can be taken away.
- **Parent-child or not:** Children must be accompanied by an adult or carer at all times and cannot be dropped-off.
- **Official entry point:** <https://hota.com.au/events/artlab-sustainable-textile-art-with-aka-sorbie> ↗

5-year-old alternative: HOTA's Art Explorers is a 45-minute free parent-child gallery tour, recommended for ages 2–5 to see the exhibition through movement and storytelling; monthly sessions require reservations.

- **Art Explorers official portal:** <https://hota.com.au/events/art-explorers-2026> ↗

07

Family Theater: Sleeping Beauty Pantomime

Suitable for those who want to arrange an indoor performance that the whole family can participate in, rather than sitting and watching quietly.

- **Where:** Spotlight Theater Basement, 185–187 Ashmore Road, Benowa QLD 4217.
- **Duration:** 90 minutes.
- **Fee:** Starting at \$25.
- **2026 Winter Remaining Sessions:** July 10th and July 11th, 10:30 or 14:00.
- **Actual experience for children:** Traditional Pantomime invites the audience to sing, laugh, boo and hiss; there will be opportunities to take photos with the characters after the performance.
- **Parking:** Parking is available at Benowa Gardens Shopping Centre, but you must register your license plate using the on-site QR code at the theater.
- **Reservation:** Ticket purchase is required.
- **Official entry point:** <https://www.whatsongoldcoast.au/All-events/Sleeping-Beauty-The-Pantomime> ↗

Parent Reminder: For children who are afraid of the dark, afraid of loud noises, or who are entering the theater for the first time, telling them in advance that "there will be people shouting together" is more helpful than just saying "go see the princess".

08

Full Day Hosting: Gold Coast Recreation Precinct

Suitable for parents who need a complete working day schedule and children who can adapt to group sports and outdoor activities.

- **Location:** 1525 Gold Coast Highway, Palm Beach QLD 4221.
- **Age:** 5–12 years.
- **Fee:** \$77/person/day for winter 2026.
- **2026 Winter Dates:** July 6–10; Season has ended, check for next holiday from the same official page.
- **Time:** drop-off is available from 7:30, officially starts at 9:00; pick-up is from 15:30–16:30.
- **What the kids actually do:** A combination of 5–7 items per day that may include Indigenous games, beach walk bingo, beach games, splash wars, canoeing, archery, dance party, aerial adventures, court sports, and body boarding.
- **Bring your own items:** morning tea, lunch, afternoon tea, drinking water, hat, sunscreen, closed shoes and sportswear; bring sunproof swimsuit, wet shoes, towel and change of clothes for water day.
- **Official entry point:**
<https://www.qld.gov.au/recreation/activities/areas-facilities/sport-venues/our-precincts-and-venues/gold-coast/holiday-program> ↗

Check before signing up: Day activity mix, swim ability requirements, weather alternatives, allergy and medication handovers, and how children will be supported if they are away from their parents for the first full day.

09

One-day sports camp: Carrara Handball Holiday Camp

Suitable for children aged 6–8 who like competitions, rules and team games; 5-year-olds need to confirm with the organizer first.

- **Location:** Gold Coast Sports and Leisure Centre, 296 Nerang Broadbeach Road, Carrara QLD 4211.
- **FEE:** \$60/person for winter 2026.
- **2026 Winter Session:** July 8, 9:00–15:00; this season has ended, please check the same entrance for the next season.
- **What the kids actually do:** coaching and drills, fun games, solo and team tournaments, 4 Square, King of the Mountain, treasure hunt, and a live leaderboard.
- **Bring Your Own Items:** water, recess and lunch.
- **On-site conditions:** The official page states that parking is free and meals can be purchased on-site.
- **Official Entrance:** <https://www.whatsongoldcoast.au/All-events/Handball-Australia-Holiday-Camp> ↗

Who is it suitable for: If your child just wants to throw a few random shots, this all-day competition structure may be too filling; if your child likes scorekeeping, challenges, and repeated practice, the content is clear.

10

How to choose according to children and family arrangements

The first nine items are not rankings. Just choose based on the problems that really need to be solved that day:

- **First time attendee under 5 years old:** Priority will be given to HOTA Art Explorers or Active & Healthy single activities with parents fully accompanying them.
- **Ages 6–8, budget as low as possible:** Libraries Game On, NaturallyGC, Active & Healthy, Ashmore Coding & STEM.
- **Full working day care required:** Gold Coast Recreation Precinct; first confirm whether the child is adaptable to full day drop-off.
- **Hope to have works to take home:** Libraries' diorama/ball run, HOTA textile design, Coding & STEM digital projects.
- **Need to release physical strength:** NaturallyGC, Active & Healthy, Recreation Precinct, Handball Camp.
- **Rainy day or don't want to bask in the sun:** Library, HOTA, Spotlight Theatre, Ashmore Coding & STEM.

Finally, let's look at "educational value". First solve the age, location, time, whether you are accompanied and whether your child is willing to participate, and the choice will be much faster.

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Just ask these six things before signing up

Does this specific session accept 5, 6, 7 or 8 year olds? Don't just look at total project age.

Is it drop-off, or does an adult have to be with me at all times?

What is the latest time to arrive, how to sign in and authorize pick up?

Does the cost include materials, equipment, meals and insurance?

If the outdoor project encounters rain, wind or high temperature, should it be moved indoors, rescheduled or refunded?

What will the child make, bring back, or demonstrate that day?

Event dates, fees, ages and places are subject to change. Before formal registration or departure, please open the official entrance in this list again to check. Do not just rely on screenshots or parent group forwarding.

Queensland state school's 2026 winter vacation is from June 27 to July 12; independent schools and Catholic schools will still be subject to the school's announcement.

- **Queensland term dates:** <https://education.qld.gov.au/about-us/calendar/term-dates> ↗
- **Gold Coast school holiday live listings:** <https://www.whatsongoldcoast.au/All-events> ↗

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About Airbotix Family Guides

Airbotix Family Guides starts from the real choices Australian parents are making, and organizes cities, ages and children's growth stages into guides that can be used directly.

Airbotix is not a cram school, nor is it just hosting. We help children move from "using content" to "making their own things" through games, creativity, coding, robotics and AI projects.

For more City Edition guides, site usage videos and examples of project work, visit:

airbotix.ai

This material is general information and does not constitute educational, safety, medical or legal advice. Event information verified on July 10, 2026 (AEST); actual arrangements are subject to the organizer. The gallery images are for educational purposes only, and the people in the images are not Airbotix students or teachers.

NEXT STEP

Choose the entrance you need now

Go to the official website to see the brand and courses, and contact Rain for specific activities; please go back to the original official page to check the event dates and quotas.

hello@airbotix.ai

WEBSITE

Airbotix official website

Learn about brands, courses, workshops and more Family Guides.



airbotix.ai ↗

SALES

Contact Rain

Scan the QR code to add Airbotix Sales WeChat to inquire about courses, activities and cooperation.



[Rain - Sales WeChat](#) ↗

SOURCE

Original information of the event

Check the What's On Gold Coast live events page to check dates, costs and places before you go.



[What's On Gold Coast](#) ↗