



HomeschoolNYC Newsletter

Celebrating Child-led Learning

Vol. II, issue 3
June 2011

This is a busy summer for me. I will be visiting a student-led learning center in Massachusetts, studying theater games and story theater in Wisconsin, and then taking a trip down under, to teach in Sydney, Australia. When I return I will have much to tell!

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[Laurie Block Spiegel](#)

Summer at HomeschoolNYC

**Does Homeschooling
Prevent Brain Drain?**

**Create Your Own
Summertime Camp**

**Road Trip to Indians and
Caves**

**Make a Postcard Accordion
Book**

Quote by John Adams

Does Homeschooling Prevent Brain Drain?



Every summer there are articles and news spots warning parents about "brain drain." Apparently, this is an affliction that happens to children during their summer vacations away from school. When they return in the fall they are two

months "behind" in their math and language arts skills. The tips offered to avoid summer brain drain sound an awful lot like a year-round homeschooling routine. [READ MORE...](#)

Create Your Own Summercamp in New York City



Alice in Wonderland statue in Central Park

When my kids were young we created our own Mommy-and-Me Summercamp. With all of the [free and cheap resources in NYC](#), I found great opportunities that I could tailor to my child. [Read more](#), where you'll find a list of the best [water playgrounds](#) and recommended [summer reading for kids](#).

Find free or low-cost

[Summer Phys. Ed](#),

[Summer Outdoor Film and Theater](#),

and

[Summer Music and Dance Festivals](#)

for Great Family Fun!

Summer Road Trip - Indians and Caves

The Tree of Peace



About a three hour drive north of NYC, The Iroquois Indian Museum, near Cobleskill, NY, holds its big annual festival on Labor Day weekend, with ceremonial dances, storytellers and other kids' activities, and a fine array of craftsmen and artists. Learn about the *Haudenosaunee*, People of the Longhouse... [READ MORE...](#)

[Suggested reading for children on the Iroquois.](#)

[Suggested reading for children on caves.](#)

Make a Travel Accordion Book



Make a simple accordion book using postcards as the front and back cover. Here is a postcard accordion that I made after a visit to Maui. I chose cards of a favorite place... [READ MORE...](#)



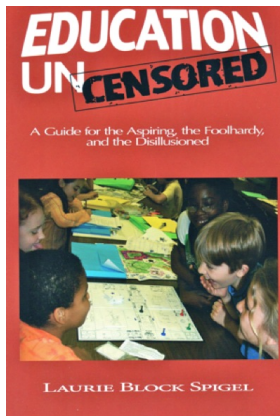
[See other student projects here.](#)

Quote by John Adams

"Children should be educated and instructed in the principles of freedom."

~John Adams (1735-1826), second President of the United States

Education Uncensored



Laurie Spigel is a leading educator in the New York City homeschooling community, teaching popular group classes and inspiring parents to create their own curriculum. Her approach is informal, creative, and child-led. Here she shares her innovative ideas and original techniques for every subject. She explains why our current educational system has it all backwards and shows how exciting learning can truly be. A real source of inspiration as well as a practical guide, this is an eye-opening book for every parent and teacher.

Available now at HomeschoolNYC.com

Price: \$12.95 plus shipping & handling

[Read an excerpt.](#)

E-mail comments and suggestions to Laurie@HomeschoolNYC.com.

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