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## CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

### **Dead horses and buzz saws. (This is not your typical children's destination.)**

For every "informative" and "enlightening" you overhear at Mystic Seaport, you're likely to hear a "cool," "neat" or "awesome" about three feet below it. Because Mystic Seaport's not just a grown-up destination. Besides our ever-popular tall ships, cruises and youth-focused exhibits, we also offer boatloads of fun, interactive (and shh...educational) attractions and unique activities designed just for kids, including:

#### **The Discovery Barn.**

For kids ages eight and up, the place to be is our Discovery Barn, filled to the rafters with interactive exhibits, like *How Boats Float*, and hands-on activities, like learning how to tie knots and furling a sail.

#### **A Dead Horse Ceremony.**

One of the most popular events: the "Dead Horse Ceremony" on board the tall ship *Joseph Conrad*. Kids sing sea chanteys, help carry a stuffed canvas horse around the deck and watch it splash into the Mystic River. Then, they help set the *Conrad's* sails.

#### **The Children's Museum.**

Kids seven and under have a place all their own – our Children's Museum. Here, young sailors can swab the deck, move cargo, cook in the galley, dress in sailors' garb and even sleep in ships' bunks. And to think people used to complain about the sailor's life.

#### **Special summer activities.**

During the warm months, kids can play on a beach and meet other forms of Mystic River wildlife, like jellyfish, barnacles and pipe fish. And on our Village Green, children can try their hand at 19<sup>th</sup>-century fun like rolling hoops, walking on stilts and playing with traditional toys like whimmy-diddles and buzz saws.