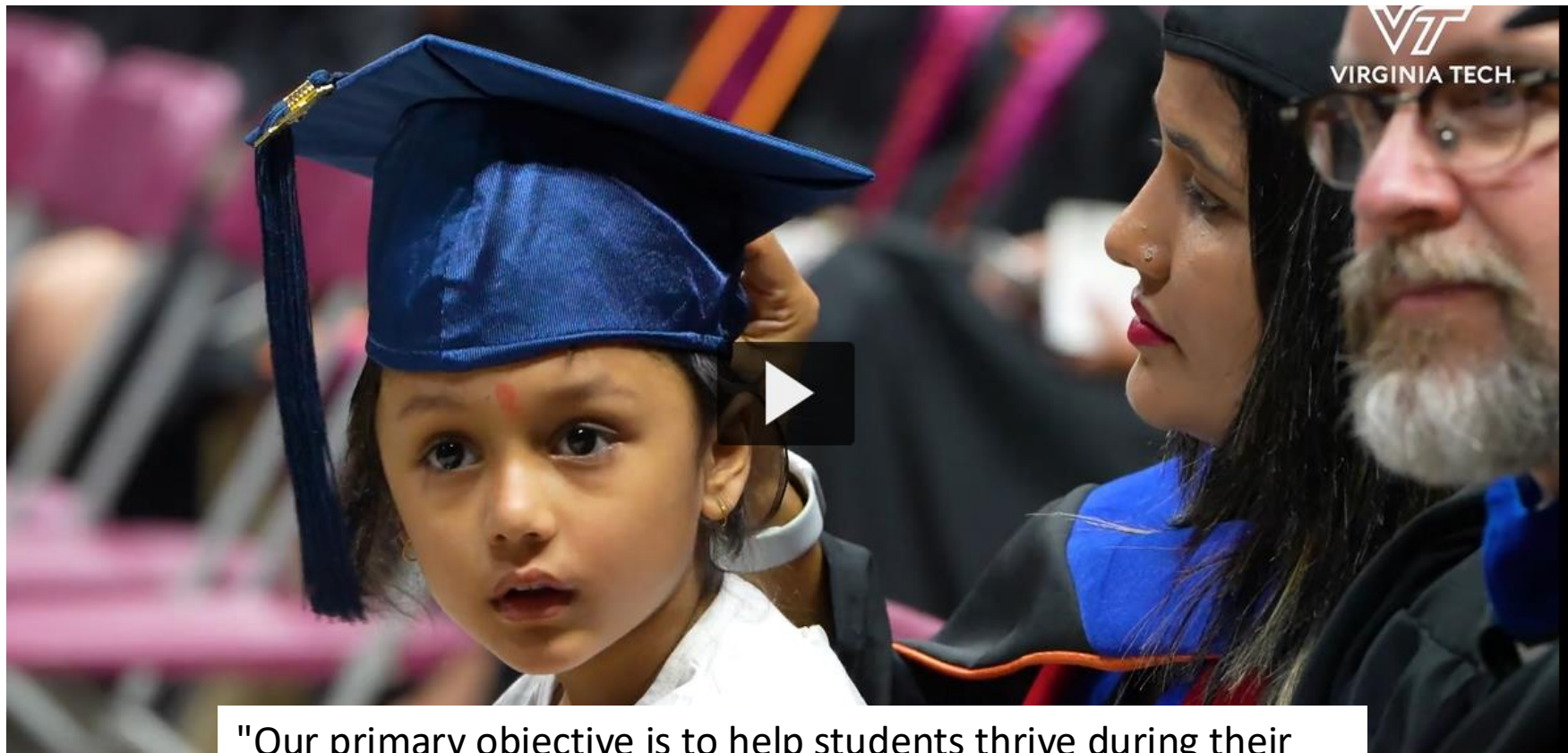




GRADUATE SCHOOL  
VIRGINIA TECH.

# Graduate Student Life Spouses, Partners and Children



"Our primary objective is to help students thrive during their graduate education experience at Virginia Tech."

~ Dr. Aimée Surprenant, Dean of the Graduate School

### Spouses, Partners, and Children



Many graduate students have spouses, partners, and/or children and the Graduate School recognizes that they need additional supports and services. We list several references and resources below, including childcare and babysitting opportunities.

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# Spouses, Partners and Children

## International Dependents

Child Care	+
Employment for Spouses and Partners	+
International Dependents	+
Pet Care	+
Public Schools (grades PreK-12)	+
Resources for Caregiving	+
Social Groups	+
Pregnant Workers Fairness Act	+

### International Dependents



#### Bringing a Spouse or Children to the U.S.

International students in F-1 or J-1 visa status may request an I-20 or DS-2019 form for a dependent (spouse or unmarried minor child). Contact the [Cranwell International Center](#) to learn more.

<https://international.vt.edu/dependents.html>



# Spouses, Partners and Children

Employment for Spouses and Partners  
(for those eligible to work in the US)



Child Care	+
Employment for Spouses and Partners	+
International Dependents	+
Pet Care	+
Public Schools (grades PreK-12)	+
Resources for Caregiving	+
Social Groups	+
Pregnant Workers Fairness Act	+

**Handshake** <https://joinhandshake.com/>  
**Virginia Tech Jobs** <https://jobs.vt.edu>

Includes hourly wage and part-time positions at Virginia Tech. Some departments which hire frequently:

- Dining Services
- Blacksburg Transit Drivers

## Other Employers:

Towns of Blacksburg and Christiansburg  
Montgomery County Public Schools  
Local businesses, food service, Kroger, MOOG

**Roanoke Times** job search site (can filter by location):  
<https://jobs.roanoke.com/>



# Spouses, Partners and Children

## Social Groups and Events

Child Care	+
Employment for Spouses and Partners	+
International Dependents	+
Pet Care	+
Public Schools (grades PreK-12)	+
Resources for Caregiving	+
Social Groups	+
Pregnant Workers Fairness Act	+

### GLC Events bring your Spouse/Partner

GLC Café

Social Events – GPSS Welcome Barbecue, Pumpkinpalooza, Thanksgiving Lunch, Tie Dye and Tacos

**Cultural & Community Centers** <https://ccc.vt.edu/>

### Gobbler Connect

Student Organizations – student can join, some may welcome spouses/partners at some of the events, just ask. <https://gobblerconnect.vt.edu/>

# Spouses, Partners and Children

## GLC Social Events

### Popsicles & Pups

August 19, 3:00-5:00, GLC Lawn

Ice cream social for graduate students with children. Meet other graduate student families and the Virginia Tech therapy dogs and enjoy popsicles and ice cream treats!

Register here:

<https://forms.office.com/r/YsHeHbKgFK>

### Parent Support Lunches

Held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month starting in September in the GLC.

Children are welcome!

Join other graduate student parents to hear a speaker and casual conversation!



# Spouses, Partners and Children

Volunteer opportunities – just a few examples

**Volunteer Montgomery** county government

<https://montva.com/1/departments-services/human-services/volunteer-montgomery>

**YMCA at Virginia Tech**

<https://vtymca.org/volunteer/>

**Sustainable Blacksburg**

<https://sustainableblacksburgva.org/category/volunteer/>

**Lyric Theater**

<https://www.thelyric.com/volunteer/>



## Become a Volunteer!

In return for their time, volunteers receive complimentary movie passes, popcorn, and drinks.



# Spouses, Partners and Children

YMCA at Virginia Tech --Support for International Students



The group offers newcomer and immigrant women the space for creating community through cultural exchange, introduction to life in the US and engagement with the broader community.

<https://vtymca.org/international-programs/>

Interested? Contact Dina at  
international@vtymca.org

**Come make friends from around the world, visit local attractions, do crafts, and cook international foods.**

For calendar and locations visit [www.vtymca.org/international-programs/](http://www.vtymca.org/international-programs/)  
For questions contact [international@vtymca.org](mailto:international@vtymca.org)



# Spouses, Partners and Children

## English Language instruction – Virginia Tech Programs

Virginia Tech Language and Culture Institute offers a variety of English language classes.

<https://lci.vt.edu/Programs.html>

- University Prep Programs – Undergraduate and Masters
- Intensive English
- English Essentials
- All of these programs charge tuition ranging from \$5,000 - \$22,000



# Spouses, Partners and Children

English Language instruction – Community Programs

<https://www.literacynrv.org/student-application>

## Literacy NRV Fall 2024 Class Schedule

<https://www.literacynrv.org/programs>

### Low to intermediate level learners

Blacksburg: Mondays from 6-8 PM (childcare provided)

Christiansburg: Tuesdays from 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM

Christiansburg: Sundays from 6:30-8 PM

Christiansburg: Sundays from 4:30-6:30 PM (Spanish only)

### Intermediate to advanced level learners (conversation practice)

Zoom: Wednesday evenings (time TBD)

Zoom: Every other Sunday at 2:30 PM (Mandarin Chinese only)

Zoom: Fridays from 10:30-11:30 AM

Blacksburg: Mondays from 6:30-7:30 PM



Literacy NRV helps adults achieve literacy-related goals to be a successful parent, worker and community member.

**WE OFFER FREE, CONFIDENTIAL ONE-ON-ONE TUTORING AND GROUP CLASSES FOR THE FOLLOWING:**

- Basic Reading & Writing
- Basic Math
- Job Readiness
- Workplace Skills
- Citizenship Preparation
- GED Preparation
- English for Speakers of Other Languages
- Basic Computer Skills
- Family Literacy
- Health Literacy



**CONTACT LITERACY NRV AT  
LITERACYNRV.ORG OR CALL (540) 382-7262**

195 West Main Street, Christiansburg, VA 24073  
540-382-7262 or [info@literacynrv.org](mailto:info@literacynrv.org)  
Monday-Thursday 8:30AM - 4:00PM  
[www.literacynrv.org](http://www.literacynrv.org)

# Spouses, Partners and Children

English Language instruction – Community Programs – Literacy NRV

<https://www.literacynrv.org/programs>



## English Language Learning

Learn English with supportive teachers so you can make friends, get a better job, and talk to people in your community.

[Learn More](#)



## Be WELL NRV

Wellness for English Language Learners: improve your understanding of medical information, drug requirements, and family well-being.

[Learn More](#)



## Driver's License and Professional Certifications

Struggling to pass that important exam? Our tutors can help you study and master the skills you need to succeed.

[Sign Up Now](#)



## Family READS

Improve your English, reading, or writing skills while your children participate in fun, educational activities.

[Learn More](#)



# Spouses, Partners and Children

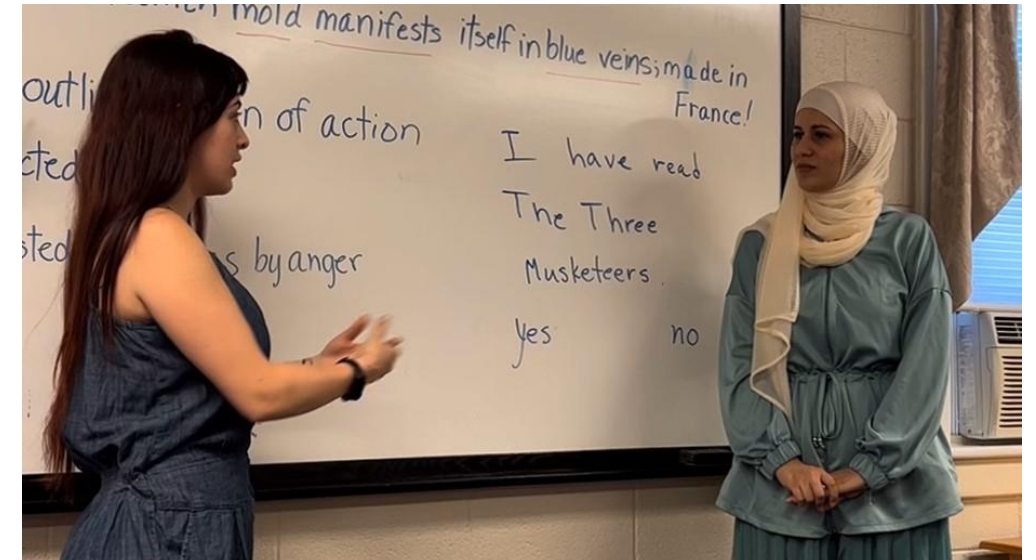
English Language instruction – Community Programs

## Church on Main – Blacksburg

Adult English School

<https://churchoonmain.church/missions/#esl>

- Free
- All levels: beginners, conversation and culture, intermediate advanced and writing.
- Flexible enrollment.
- Classes held Mondays and Wednesdays from 9:30AM to 11:30AM, from September – May.  
Summer schedule, varies.





# Spouses, Partners and Children

English Language instruction – Community Programs

## New River Community College

<https://www.nr.edu/adulted/eslfaq.php>

Adult Education ELA (English Language Acquisition Classes)

- Free
- Must take screening test
- Classes will start late August
- Held at Christiansburg Uptown Mall (on bus line)
- Contact the ELA department at (540) 674-3600, extension 4308 for more information.



# Spouses, Partners and Children

And baby makes three!

Child Care	+
Employment for Spouses and Partners	+
International Dependents	+
Pet Care	+
Public Schools (grades PreK-12)	+
Resources for Caregiving	+
Social Groups	+
Pregnant Workers Fairness Act	+



## Graduate School Work-Life Grant

<https://graduateschool.vt.edu/funding/work-life-grants.html>

Financial assistance for GAs, GRAs, GTAs, expecting or adopting children. Departments can request financial assistance equivalent to a graduate assistantship for 8 weeks.

# Spouses, Partners and Children

And baby makes three!

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## Little Hokie Hand-Me-Down™

<https://gpss.vt.edu/events/little-hokie-handmedown.html>

- Donated items for babies and children - Free!
- Held in November 11 -13, 2024
- Sponsored by GPSS, The Virginia Tech Women's Center and the Graduate School
- Graduate students get first pick



# Spouses, Partners and Children

## Childcare Centers

Age 0-5, and may offer afterschool care kids in elementary school

Full time hours 7:00am -6:00pm (varies) usually year round

Charge tuition some programs are subsidized

Parents must provide transportation; drop off and pick up children

## Public Schools – starts at Kindergarten, age 5 by September 30

Full time school day 8:45-3:45 for elementary schools

Free – do not charge tuition

Provide transportation to and from school

## Private Schools – ages served vary by school

Charge tuition

Some are religious schools

Most do not provide transportation and parents must drop off and pick up children





# Spouses, Partners and Children

## Childcare – Little Hokie™ Hangout

Child Care	+
Employment for Spouses and Partners	+
International Dependents	+
Pet Care	+
Public Schools (grades PreK-12)	+
Resources for Caregiving	+
Social Groups	+
Pregnant Workers Fairness Act	+



### Little Hokie Hangout

<https://graduateschool.vt.edu/student-services/spouses-partners-and-children/child-care/little-hokies-hangout.html>

- A flexible, subsidized early education program primarily for Graduate Student families for children age 2-5.
- Three daily sessions; morning, afternoon, evening between 8:30 and 5:30 pm – Monday-Friday
- Use this form to apply for a fall semester 2024 spot: [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScrEk9kxZZzKwKXXemPPNXXejnkF2blgMJDGBNN08xpwhxY\\_A/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScrEk9kxZZzKwKXXemPPNXXejnkF2blgMJDGBNN08xpwhxY_A/viewform)

# Spouses, Partners and Children

## Childcare

Child Care	+
Employment for Spouses and Partners	+
International Dependents	+
Pet Care	+
Public Schools (grades PreK-12)	+
Resources for Caregiving	+
Social Groups	+
Pregnant Workers Fairness Act	+

Preschool class at Children’s Nest Childcare center in Blacksburg



# Spouses, Partners and Children

## Childcare Centers

Child Care	+
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### New River Valley Based Childcare Partnerships with VT

Parents who need childcare for infants – prekindergarten (ages 0- 5) are encouraged to contact these childcare partners and follow their specific enrollment protocols.

- Children’s Nest <https://childrensnest.com/>
- Giles Health & Family Center <https://gileshealthandfamily.org/>
- Rainbow Riders <https://rainbow-riders.org/>
- Valley Interfaith Child Care Center <https://www.valleyinterfaithchildcarecenter.org/>

# Spouses, Partners and Children

## Childcare Centers

Child Care	+
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Public Schools (grades PreK-12)	+
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Social Groups	+
Pregnant Workers Fairness Act	+



Other Childcare Centers:

Kindercare: <https://www.kindercare.com/our-centers>

Me Mine & Us Montessori: <https://www.mmums.com/>

Head Start, Early Head Start & Virginia Preschool Initiative. All are accessed through 1 application: <https://newrivercommunityaction.org/head-start-2/#1620328499938-0f5f2e17-b8c9>

Currently full for 2024/2025 but still taking applications



# Spouses, Partners and Children

## Other Childcare

Child Care	+
Employment for Spouses and Partners	+
International Dependents	+
Pet Care	+
Public Schools (grades PreK-12)	+
Resources for Caregiving	+
Social Groups	+
Pregnant Workers Fairness Act	+



Part time preschool programs

Babysitters VT Student List– Hokie Wellness maintains a list of students who are interested in providing part-time child care elder care, tutoring, pet sitting, house sitting, and more. All those with Virginia Tech single sign-on access have access to the list found here:

<https://hokiewellness.vt.edu/employees/caregiving.html>

# Spouses, Partners and Children

VT Childcare Resources page

Virginia Tech General On Campus Child Care Resources

<https://caregiving.vt.edu/ChildCareResources.html>



- Early Childhood Education Initiatives Lunch & Learn On the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month, noon- 1pm. Variety of topics with conversations facilitated in partnership with [NRV CARES](#). Recordings of past lunch & learn topics are available on the website.
- Choosing Quality - during the 2024-2025 academic year, [Kim Thomason](#), Program Manager for Early childhood Education Initiatives, will host a discussion-based seminar to support parents in choosing high quality early care and education that is a good fit for their family.

# Spouses, Partners and Children

Free Babysitting!

Child Care	+
Employment for Spouses and Partners	+
International Dependents	+
Pet Care	+
Public Schools (grades PreK-12)	+
Resources for Caregiving	+
Social Groups	+
Pregnant Workers Fairness Act	+



## Free Weekly Babysitting:

### Kids' Night Out

- Virginia Tech Women’s Center 206 Washington Street
- Fall/Spring Semesters while classes are in session
- Thursdays 6:30-8:00 p.m
- Kids ages 2-12 (must be toilet trained)
- Must sign up each week a link will be posted on [womenscenter.vt.edu](https://womenscenter.vt.edu) every Monday

# Spouses, Partners and Children

Montgomery County Public Schools <https://www.mcps.org/>



**In general:**

### Elementary Schools: Kindergarten - 5<sup>th</sup> grade (age 5-10)

### **Middle Schools: 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade (age 10-13)**

**High Schools:** 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade (age 14-18)

Free – do not charge tuition

School year runs mid August – End of May

Schools provide bus transportation; or parents may drop off and pick up children.

Elementary offers after school care for school age children and charges fees for this





# Spouses, Partners and Children

Montgomery County Public Schools <https://www.mcps.org/>



Children are assigned to the school according to which school zone they live in.  
You can search for your school zone here:

<https://www.mcps.org/departments/transportation/find-your-school-zone>

List of MCPS schools – links to each school's website

<https://www.mcps.org/our-schools>



# Spouses, Partners and Children

Montgomery County Public Schools <https://www.mcps.org/>



## Enrollment

You will need to enroll your child in MCPS schools

Online forms:

<https://www.mcps.org/about-us/enroll-at-mcps>

The final step of enrollment requires you to visit the school in-person and provide documents:

- Child's Birth Certificate (Original)
- Two Proofs of Address (utility bill, deed/lease, tax return, voter registration card)
- Photo ID for parent registering student



# Spouses, Partners and Children

Montgomery County Public Schools <https://www.mcps.org/>



## Transportation

MCPS provides bus transportation for all students.

You may also drop off and pick up your child from school if you prefer.

You can look up the bus routes and bus stops by school here:

<https://www.mcps.org/departments/transportation>



# Spouses, Partners and Children

Montgomery County Public Schools <https://www.mcps.org/>



## School Nutrition

<https://www.mcps.org/departments/school-nutrition>

Schools offer optional breakfast and lunch  
or students may eat breakfast at home and bring their own lunch.

## Application for Free and Reduced lunch – income restrictions

<https://www.myschoolapps.com/Application>

The following schools provide free lunch and breakfast school-wide  
for the 2024-2025 school year:

Eastern Montgomery Elementary, Eastern Montgomery High, Falling Branch Elementary, Montgomery Central, Price's Fork Elementary, and Shawsville Middle

Lunch Meal Prices	
Full Price Student - Elementary	\$3.00
Full Price Student - Secondary	\$3.10
Reduced Price	\$0.00*
Full Price Adult	\$4.25
Milk (1/2 pint)	\$0.75



# Spouses, Partners and Children

Montgomery County Public Schools <https://www.mcps.org/>



## Curriculum Information

<https://www.mcps.org/departments/curriculum>

In addition to main academic subjects MCPS offers:

- Fine Arts
- Physical Education
- English as a Second Language
- Gifted Education
- Special Education



# Spouses, Partners and Children



## Private Schools

There are several private schools in Blacksburg/the New River Valley

- May have a religious affiliation
- Charge tuition

[Blacksburg New School](#) (Montgomery County | K-8)

[New River Valley Montessori](#) (Floyd County | 6-12 yrs)

[Springhouse Community School](#) (Floyd County | 7-12)

[St. John Neumann Academy](#) (Montgomery County | PK-8)

[Tall Oaks Montessori](#) (Montgomery County | PK-6)

[Valley Classical School](#) (Montgomery County | PK-9)

[Mountain View Christian School](#) (Montgomery County | PK-12)

[Mine, Me, and Us Montessori](#) (Montgomery County | 6 wks-9 yrs)

[Blue Mountain School](#) (Floyd County | 3.5 – 12 yrs)

[Jefferson Christian Academy](#) (Giles County | K-7)

[Dayspring Christian Academy](#) (Montgomery County | K-12)

[Little River Outdoor School](#) (Floyd County | 5-12 yrs)

[Tall Oaks Montessori](#) (Montgomery County | PK-6)

[Valley Classical School](#) (Montgomery County | PK-9)

Source: <https://www.newrivervalleyva.org/live-here/education/#privateschools>

# Spouses, Partners and Children

Recreation for Kids and Adults

Parks and Recreation Departments

Town of Blacksburg

<https://www.blacksburg.gov/departments/departments-l-z/parks-and-recreation>

Town of Christiansburg

<https://www.christiansburg.org/177/Parks-Recreation>

Montgomery County VA

<https://montva.com/1/departments-services/parks-recreation>

- Recreational Sports teams
- Aquatic Centers
- Summer Camps
- Other Activities



# Spouses, Partners and Children

## Recreation for Kids - Sports

### Soccer

New River United: <https://www.newriverunited.com/>

### Lacrosse

New River Valley Lacrosse: <https://www.nrvlc.org/>

### Swimming

Virginia Tech Recreational Sports swimming lessons:

<https://recsports.vt.edu/aquatics/youthswim.html>

H2okies competitive swim team

<https://www.gomotionapp.com/team/vah2oa/page/home>

### Dance

Little Leapers <https://www.thelittleleapers.com/>

Dance-tech <https://dance-tech.com/>

NRV Academy of Dance <https://nrvacademyofdance.org/>

Gymnastics: <https://www.vatechniques.com/>





# Spouses, Partners and Children

VT Athletics



Hokie Kids Club

<https://hokiesports.com/hokie-kids-club>

# Spouses, Partners and Children

Whats up? Resources to find activities

Macaroni Kid – (kid/family events)

<https://nrvmacaronikid.com/guides>

Next Three Days (not kid/family specific)

<http://www.nextthreedays.com/>



## MacaroniKID® BY CertifiKID

Jul 16	<p>📖 <b>Toddler Storytime @ Blacksburg Library</b></p> <p>10:00 AM - 10:30 AM FREE</p>	<p><b>Blacksburg Library</b> 200 Miller Street Blacksburg, VA 24060</p>
Jul 16	<p>🧸 <b>Play Group for Babies &amp; Toddlers @ Imaginations Toy &amp; Furniture</b></p> <p>10:00 AM - 11:00 AM FREE</p>	<p><b>Imaginations Toy &amp; Furniture Co.</b> 1531 South Main Street Blacksburg, VA 24060</p>
Jul 16	<p>📖 <b>Tot Storytime @ Blacksburg Library</b></p> <p>10:00 AM - 10:30 AM FREE</p>	<p><b>Blacksburg Library</b> 200 Miller Street Blacksburg, VA 24060</p>
Jul 16	<p>🎬 <b>Summer Movie Express @ Regal Cinemas</b></p> <p>11:00 AM - 1:00 PM \$1</p>	<p><b>Regal New River Valley &amp; RPX</b> 110 New River Road Christiansburg, VA 24073</p>
Jul 16	<p>📖 <b>Dublin Library Book Club @ Dublin Library</b></p> <p>2:00 PM - 3:00 PM</p>	<p><b>Free Memorial Library (Dublin)</b> 300 Giles Avenue Dublin, VA 22024</p>

# Spouses, Partners and Children

## Caregiving Resources & Summer Camps

[VT Summer Camps 2024](#)

[New River Valley Summer Camps 2024](#)

[Roanoke Area Summer Camps 2024](#)

Parks and Recreation Departments offer summer camp programs

Macaroni Kid NRV Summer Camp Guide

<https://nrv.macaronikid.com/guides/5c4e093a5c1b5749a67bf029/new-river-valley-summer-camps-and-programs-guide>

