

FamilyFun

Founded in 1991, *FamilyFun* is the country's number one magazine for families with children ages 3 to 12, with more than 2 million subscribers.

On every page, *FamilyFun* gives parents the information and inspiration they need to create unforgettable family moments. We are the trusted experts on family cooking, vacations, parties, holidays, crafts, and learning — all the essentials that enrich the precious time families share.

FamilyFun is unique in the marketplace, delivering real ideas for — and from — real families. Our readers see the magazine as a reflection of their own lives and priorities, a place where they can find a community of like-minded parents and discover ideas for building strong, healthy families.

WRITERS' GUIDELINES

Please familiarize yourself with the magazine before submitting a query. Our heavy emphasis on activities and ideas distinguishes us from other parenting and family magazines. We do not publish child development articles, fiction, poetry, and the like. This format means that we are always looking for professional freelancers who are experts in the art of being a fun-loving, creative parent.

Our criteria for each article are simple: the activities must be fun, family-tested, affordable, and easy to do. We strive to entertain as well as inform with a writing style that is no-nonsense, upbeat, and personal. Our highly visual layouts dictate brevity.

Submissions: Articles are scheduled and assigned at least five months in advance of publication. Please send manuscripts and queries by e-mail or standard mail only — not by telephone or fax. We do not accept unsolicited manuscripts for feature stories; we do accept unsolicited manuscripts for the following departments: Everyday Fun, Family Getaways, Family Traditions, and Creative Solutions (see details below). Queries should describe the content, structure, and tone of the proposed article. We receive many queries on the same topics, so please be as specific as possible about what makes your idea unique and why you are qualified to write about it. If appropriate, include photographs or sketches of the finished project, food, or craft. Due to the large volume of submissions, allow four to six weeks for a response. Supporting materials — such as photographs and clips — will be returned if accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope with correct postage. Please note: **Editorial responses to submissions will be sent via e-mail, so please provide an address for our reply.**

Send submissions to:

queries.FamilyFun@disney.com

or

ATTN: [editor or department] *FamilyFun*, 47 Pleasant Street, Northampton, MA 01060

Back issues:

Send a check made out to *FamilyFun* for \$8.90 for the first copy, plus \$7.95 for each additional copy, to:
FamilyFun, P.O. Box 37033, Boone, IA 50037-0033
or call 800-289-4849

Subscriptions:

\$14.95 for one year (10 issues); order via the address or phone number above, or online at FamilyFun.com (see the "*FamilyFun* magazine" menu).

FEATURES

Our features present activities that are entertaining for the whole family, relatively inexpensive, and easy to do. Specific topics include food, crafts, parties, holiday celebrations, sports, games, creative solutions to common household problems and family challenges, educational projects, and home organizing and decorating. Travel features highlight moderately priced U.S. destinations that offer an exceptional value and specifically cater to the needs of families. Similarly, food features present recipes that have a track record with families, dishes that are fun both to make and to eat.

Length: 850 to 3,000 words

Compensation: \$1.25 per word upon acceptance

Submissions: Queries only; direct to Features Editor, Food Editor, or Travel Editor

DEPARTMENTS

- **Everyday Fun** offers simple, fun, practical, and inexpensive ideas and projects, including crafts, games, nature activities, learning activities, kid-friendly recipes, outings, and so on.

Length: 50 to 300 words

Compensation: \$1.25 per word upon acceptance; \$200 for the idea if we opt to use a staff writer

Submissions: Manuscripts and queries; direct to Adrienne Stolarz, Associate Editor

- **Family Getaways** offers two mid-length (600 to 1,000 words), first-person, process-oriented, and often destination-specific articles every issue. Each article is highly formatted and presents a family travel topic such as a road trip, insider's city weekend, or themed roundup of attractions or destinations. In addition, the department features a page of brief, newsy, time-sensitive items, including new destinations, great package deals, and season-specific outings geared for weekend getaways. The department ends on a festive note, with a full page of fairs, festivals, and civic and cultural events across the country, delivered in a regional format. Because we are budget conscious, we rarely cover international travel or expensive American resorts or programs.

Compensation: \$1.25 per word upon acceptance (\$100 for the idea if we opt to use a staff writer)

Submissions: Manuscripts and queries; direct to Travel Editor

- **Family Traditions** is a first-person, one-page department that highlights one family's favorite or most meaningful tradition, such as a Saturday-morning ritual or a neat way to mark milestones. The topics vary but are often seasonal and usually focus on some way in which the tradition has helped shape that family's identity or brought them closer together. Each tradition should be inspiring, but also practical and universal enough that readers can adapt the idea for themselves. Each article is accompanied by a photograph of the writer and his or her family.

Length: 300 to 500 words

Compensation: \$1.25 per word upon acceptance

Submissions: Manuscript or query, but preferably manuscripts; direct to Samuel Mead, Senior Editor

- **Creative Solutions** showcases a practical, innovative idea that the writer used to solve a problem common among families: a game or homemade chart that got the kids excited about doing chores, for instance, or a trick that persuaded reluctant letter writers to keep up their correspondence with Grandpa. Each essay tells the story of how this Great Idea changed or inspired the family.

Length: 800 to 1,000 words

Compensation: \$1,250 upon acceptance

Submissions: Queries accepted, manuscripts preferred; direct to Debra Immergut, Senior Editor

- **My Great Idea** showcases simple, clever ideas that solve common household problems, but in the form of brief letters from writers and readers.

Length: 50 to 200 words

Compensation: \$100 upon publication

Submissions: Direct your letter to Nicole Blasenak, Senior Associate Editor

▪ **Healthy Fun** features refreshingly practical strategies and creative ideas for staying active, eating well, and feeling great. It offers a humorous, knowing, down-to-earth, parent-to-parent look at ways of working healthy habits and exercise into your life. The light approach and conversational tone underscore the fundamental challenge: sure, you know your kids should eat more veggies and get moving, but how do you really entice them? How do you make it fun for you and them? We're looking for real-world solutions to the health challenges today's families face.

Length: 1,200 words

Compensation: \$1,500

Submissions: Queries with specific activities accepted; direct to Jodi Butler, Senior Editor

▪ **Family Home** features creative and useful ideas for the home, yard, and garden. We look for practical solutions for staying organized, new products, and easy, unique ways to decorate. The ideas must be affordable and realistic, such as those in the "success stories" (sent in by families around the country) that we regularly run. The column is usually written by a select group of contributing editors, but we do buy individual ideas.

Length: 1,000 words

Compensation: \$75 to \$200 per idea and \$1,250 for writing

Submissions: Queries with specific ideas accepted; photos are appreciated but cannot be returned; direct to Cindy Littlefield, Senior Editor

▪ **Our Favorite Things** features parent-recommended family entertainment products and gear, such as toys, books, DVDs, video games, music, and more.

Length: 50 to 300 words

Compensation: \$1.25 a word

Submissions: Queries with specific products are accepted; direct to Ellen Wall, Associate Editor