4 Tips for Kids' Sports on a Budget



Participation in sports has numerous benefits for kids. <u>Statistics show that around 60 million kids</u> play at least one sport. So, opportunities for saving money are everywhere, from secondhand gear to carpooling. If you want your kids to be more involved in sports like soccer but are worried about the extra expenses, there are plenty of things you can do to make it work. Here are four things to consider, presented by FC Regina.

1. Shop Secondhand

Kids grow fast, which means other families are <u>always getting rid of gear</u> their kids have outgrown long before it is worn out. Sports teams will often have resources organized through the parents to share equipment for the children. In addition, major chains like Play it Again Sports sell used gear alongside their new stock.

If your child is trying a new sport, you may even <u>consider borrowing some gear</u> until you're sure they are going to participate. Talk to the coach or organization you are considering and see what options they have available for new players.

2. Practice at Home

Instead of joining an expensive gym or facility, <u>set up an outdoor space at home</u> where they can play and practice. This will not only save on membership fees but also on commute costs. Kids can play outside while you are free to use that time as you wish while keeping a close eye on them.

If you're concerned about keeping the yard maintained, consider getting your land <u>graded to prevent soil erosion</u>. Connect with local contractors to find someone who can provide landscaping services at a reasonable price. You can discuss your options in a consultation and get a quote before you decide to move forward. Evaluate reviews online to find the best fit, and be sure to <u>check for deals or coupons</u> for new customers to save some extra cash.

3. Choose the Right Sport

There are ways to make any sport affordable, but if your options are wide open, you may want to steer your kids towards more popular and budget-friendly recreations. For instance, sports like ice hockey and skiing are among the <u>most expensive activities for kids</u>, while skateboarding can cost very little. Popular team sports like soccer usually require some gear, but it may be easier to find affordable choices since there are more places to shop.

Sports that don't require travel can also be a good choice, but traveling sports are also feasible when parents work together to find the best travel prices. Carpooling is another option that gets kids to games and practice while saving money on gas.

4. Keep a Good Perspective

Sports can teach kids how to work with a team, build self-confidence, and provide the necessary amount of physical activity. It's important to remind kids that while competition can be healthy, winning <u>isn't the most important part</u> of playing sports. By keeping involvement fun and light, your kids can enjoy themselves and not stress about having the latest and greatest gear. By doing this, your kids can learn how to grow from losses and build character. Having those experiences will be infinitely more beneficial to them in the long run.

The tips above will help your kids get started in sports without breaking the bank. Remember to focus on what counts and not stress too much over doing everything perfectly. Sports should be a positive experience, so don't let money stop you from getting involved.

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