



# TRY EVERYTHING

AUG 18 • BUENA PARK, CA

According to Gazelle, Zootopia's famous pop star and mammal rights activist, we need to "keep on making those new mistakes and try everything." That's definitely what this year was about! Now that Olivia is a walkin', talkin', self-thinkin' 3-year-old, we've let her try almost everything. From different after-school classes like music, art, and swim, to new foods like brussels sprouts, baklava, and sushi, our "year of trying new things" helped us discover

what makes her happiest. Olivia loves swimming, roller coasters (and the log ride), being on stage at dance recitals, playing chase, any form of pasta, bounce houses, seeing lion dancers and taiko drummers, petting goats, watching the same two movies (Frozen & Zootopia), mixing "ingredients", and dressing up.

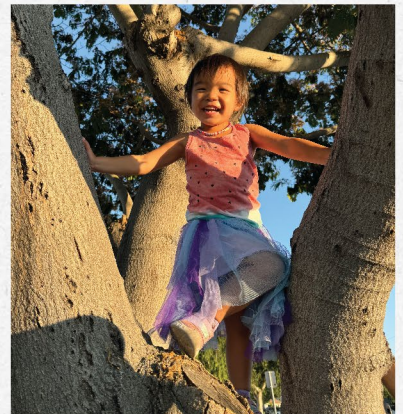
As we end 2024, we've whittled it down to swim and dance classes. But who knows what new things we'll try in 2025!

ZOOPTOIA CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

# PICKLEBALL FEVER

MAY 20 • TORRANCE, CA

"Don't go in the kitchen! Just dink it. Zero-zero-two! Yours!!" Sound familiar? Then you must know about the fastest-growing sport in North America: Pickleball! We interviewed a group of up-and-coming THE KITCHEN CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

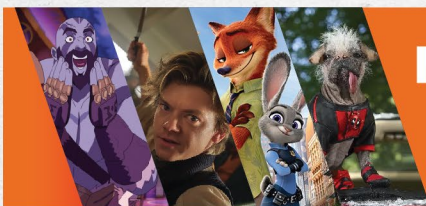


# REACHING NEW HEIGHTS

AUG 16 • LONG BEACH, CA

Did you know dendrology is the study of trees? Both Olivia and Shelby had to study up this year. Olivia

BOOTS CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



Mouldy Mangos

2024 TV & MOVIE REVIEWS





### ZOOTOPIA CONTINUED

Here's a snapshot of the new classes we tried this year:



@ARTSPOTLB

Creating unique and usually messy masterpieces



@DANZITUP

Stretching out of our comfort zone and into tap and ballet



@CALHEIGHTSMUSIC

Discovering the magic of music by exploring new instruments



@SAFESPLASHWIMSCHOOL

Making a splash as we dive into swimming lessons



## CHEERS TO A DECADE

SEP 13 • HOLLYWOOD, CA

Ten years ago today, it was 107 degrees outside, and we said "I do." Who knew we were saying "yes" to years of dog walks, scoops of ice cream, getting lost, cleaning up Play-Doh, to-do lists, trying new crafts, binge-watching shows, screaming on The Zipper, new jobs, and holding hands together?

We celebrated our 10th anniversary with two full days sans kids! Our itinerary included: brunch, the Norton Simon Museum, watching Deadpool & Wolverine IN theaters, a sit-down restaurant, and being big kids at Universal Studios! Here's to many more decades of "we do."

### THE KITCHEN CONTINUED

pickleball players to learn more. "We're just a bunch of coworkers who wanted to take a break at lunch and try something new! Now it's the best part of our Monday! Whether you're a seasoned athlete or a beginner, pickleball is a fun and easy way to stay active and challenge yourself!"

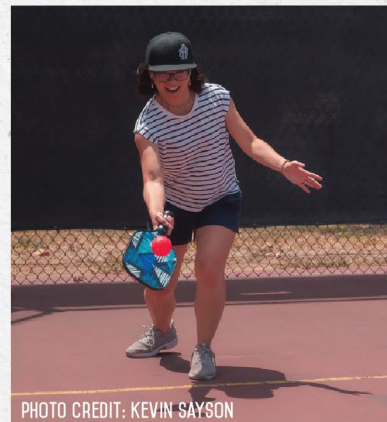


PHOTO CREDIT: KEVIN SAYSON



YOU PICK IT. WE'LL PLANT IT!



CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL

CREATIVE BABE MARKET @ LBX

KNOTT'S BERRY FARM

RENAISSANCE FAIRE

CHILDREN'S BOOK FESTIVAL

## PAINTED WITH JOY

APR 13 • IRWINDALE, CA

This year, we attended a number of fairs and festivals, from the big ones like the Renaissance Faire and the LA Times Festival of Books, to the smaller local events like the Cherry Blossom Festival and LBX Market. Besides the amazing atmosphere, booths, music, and food, another must-have at

every festival is face paint! We spoke with a local face paint connoisseur. She said, "I love the way the brushes feel on my face. My favorite choices are unicorns, rainbows, and anything pink! You have to sit really, really still, and don't forget to add glitter!"

\*Sometimes costs extra

### BOOTS CONTINUED

became a more proficient tree-climber, and Shelby had to pick the perfect tree for our backyard. Meet Boots (from Moon Valley Nursery): our six-year-old Majestic Ash, known for being an easy-care, drought-resistant tree with no seeds! Boots (11' 2" tall) and Olivia (38" tall) are growing stronger and taller each day!



## YEAR OF THE DRAGON



APR 4 • LONG BEACH, CA

According to the Chinese zodiac, 2024 is the Year of the Dragon, and indeed it is! This spring, a preschool game called Ruby's Gem Quest took flight! Later this year, it was awarded a Best Toy Award by Good Housekeeping! "This was my first game that I got to be a part of, from ideation to the final package! I'm proud that my own 3-year-old calls Ruby one of her favorite games," says designer Kristina Moulden. Find more awesome preschool games by Educational Insights online and in stores!



Walk, Unite, and Make an Impact! ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION

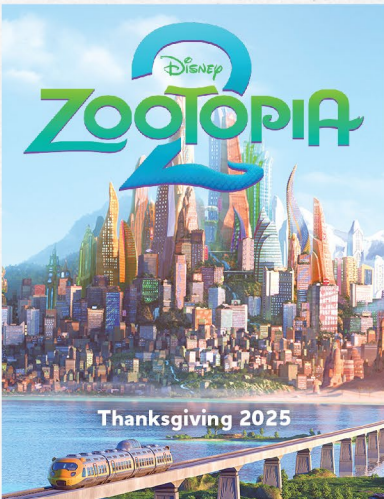




# LITTLE FEET BIG STEPS

SEP 9 · LONG BEACH, CA

Local toddler tackles first day at preschool with snacks and smiles. "Our daughter, Olivia, started at Long Beach Christian this fall, and we couldn't be happier! She comes home singing and is making new friends. Another big plus: it's just down the street from us! Our pups, Peanut and Praline, love escorting her all the way to the door," say parents, Shelby and Kristina.



# HOLIDAY CHEER

As 2024 comes to an end, we're thankful for all the new things we've tried and learned! Shelby gained some XP in the coding world with his new front-end developer hat (which he wears alongside his designer cap). Kristina has been using her spare time to get involved with Olivia's extracurriculars, like building a bug-themed ball toss game for our first Trunk-or-Treat and designing banners for the winter dance recital. Olivia is also blossoming into her own little self. She's full of astonishing questions, loves to experiment (with ingredients, makeup, and



physics), and is emerging from her cocoon as she learns how to be a friend and make new ones too! And as for the pups: Peanut figured out how to jump onto countertops, and we discovered that Praline is the fastest sprinter in backyard races. Here's to many more new opportunities, classes, festivals, and core memories!

Happy holidays!

Love the Moulden Family

	3				5		8
			4		3	2	
	8						1
		1		5			7
9			1		6		
				2			6
			3				4
6	1	5					
			2		9		