

British Cultural Events for Kids This Weekend

By Rebecca Hartmann

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On Friday there will be a series of events inspired by "Harry Potter."

Moscow is hosting an introduction to British culture for youngsters from Thursday to Sunday at the Young Pioneers Palace in Sparrow Hills.

Young football fans will be able to participate in a Premier League-themed tournament starting Thursday and have the opportunity to play alongside former pros. There will also be an introduction to learning the English language, designed to encourage more children to learn English.

On Friday there will be events inspired by "Harry Potter," the best-selling British books. Fans of author J.K. Rowling's fantasy world will be able to take part in contests and challenges in the "Harry Potter at the Palace of Pioneers" area.

For children who enjoy spending time in nature, the outdoors club Scouts will also be holding

a "Scout Camp" from Friday to Sunday. The organization, founded in Britain in 1907, focuses on teaching children survival skills as well as helping them become upstanding members of society. The first Scout group in Russia was set up in 1910 before being replaced by the Komsomol and Young Pioneers. The Scouts became popular again in Russia in the early 1990s.

On Saturday visitors will be able to learn how to play croquet, a traditional English summer pastime. Members of the Russian Interregional Croquet Federation will help teach the classic game.

Legendary characters from "Robin Hood" will be making an appearance on Saturday and Sunday to bring the English tale to life. They will help children learn about medieval England through activities such as archery and will even entertain audiences with a competition in the dangerous medieval sport of jousting.

On top of this, there will be representatives of British military history societies and rock concerts that will showcase tribute bands of famous groups from the British music scene such as The Beatles, The Rolling Stones and Queen.

The British cultural weekend at the Young Pioneers Palace runs from Thursday to Sunday, from noon to 4 p.m. Free admission. 17 Ulitsa Kosygina. Metro Vorobyovy Gory. 905-508-2811

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