Hang Time
63 ways to get wild with a kid (see page 116)
Arboretums

GERRY DONNELLY picks the top three tree havens.

"Of all the wonders of nature," Woody Allen once said, "a tree in summer is perhaps the most remarkable—with the possible exception of a moose singing Embraceable You in spats." Be that as it may, we'll take the tree. Gerry Donnelly, president and CEO of Chicago's Morton Arboretum points out a few favorites where dogwoods, redbuds, and citrus trees put on a show.

Dallas Arboretum
DALLAS
By early April, daffodils and tulips bloom in this garden-like arboretum with an exquisite range of colors. The gorgeous old magnolia trees also peak, in addition to the dogwoods, flowering peaches, and crab apples. But the key spring plants here are the azaleas. The Color Garden shows them off, a spectacular display especially when splashed against the surrounding dark-green foliage. dallasarboretum.org

Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden
MIAMI
Despite the name, this wonderful spot has all the characteristics of an arboretum, namely in its magnificent tree-lined landscapes. Several different kinds of palm trees and primitive shrubby plants called cycads are prominent here. You also get the oranges, lemons, limes, and those intoxicating spring aromas from flowering citrus trees. The Garden offers a real feast for the senses, especially in the spring when many trees and shrubs in south Florida bloom their best. fairchildgarden.org

Morton Arboretum
LISLE, ILLINOIS
I've included the Morton, where I work, because it's one of the world's leading arboretums—and because I'm biased. April's highlights include the native redbud trees, blooming wildflowers, and breathtaking acres of daffodils that roll as far as the eye can see. Don't miss the new 4-acre Children's Garden which includes some unusual trees and shrubs, like the comforted-Harry Lauder's Walking Stick. mortonarb.org