

Free Skiing for Youth in Colorado

If you are one of those folks itching to get back out on the ski slopes with your family, you'll want to check out the free skiing opportunities for youth during the 2014/2015 season.

Colorado Ski Country's Passport Program provides free access for 5th graders and deep discounts for 6th graders at 20 Colorado ski areas, while the Vail Resorts offers 5th and 6th graders free days of skiing at five ski areas.

Ski Country's 5th Grade Passport Program provides youngsters with three free days of skiing or snowboarding at each of 20 resorts. That could be 60 days of skiing this season for free.

Fifth graders who are first-time skiers or snowboarders can also receive one beginner lesson and rental gear at 17 of the ski areas. The lessons are usually held in the month of January.

And, for 6th graders, there's a 6th Grade Passport, which costs \$99 and gives participants four days of skiing at each of Colorado Ski country's participating resorts. That could be 80 days of skiing for under \$100. That's a crazy good deal.

Online applications for the Passport Program will be available by mid-September, while schools should have the applications available by the end of September. The application deadline is January 31, 2015.

For more information about this program, visit <http://www.coloradoski.com/passport>, email passport@coloradoski.com or call 303-866-9707.

Under the Vail Resorts' School of Shred program, 5th and 6th graders are eligible for four days of free skiing at Vail,

Beaver Creek, Breckenridge, Keystone and Arapahoe Basin. The resorts also offer free first-time ski lessons and rentals in January at all of their locations except for Arapahoe Basin.

Registration can be done at Colorado Ski & Golf stores or Boulder Ski Deals.

For more information, visit <http://www.snow.com/epic-pass/info/schoolofshred.aspx>, email schoolofshred@vailresorts.com or call 800-842-8062.

These are great programs that make it a little bit more affordable to get the whole family enjoying Colorado's signature winter sport.

It's worked for a lot of other folks. In fact, Colorado Ski Country's program has helped more than 250,000 Colorado families introduce their kids to skiing and snowboarding since its inception in 1996.

See you on the slopes!