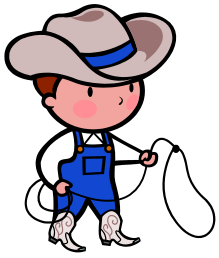
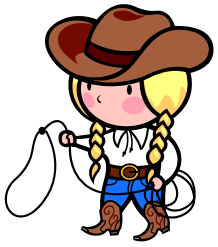


Frequently Asked Questions



What is the Kiddie Kapers Parade?

A free parade for children and their families in the Salinas Valley, which kicks off Big Week of the California Rodeo Salinas, and a chance for the community to showcase their creativity.

How many years has the Kiddie Kapers Parade been going on?

91 Years - the 1st parade was held in 1931.

When is the parade?

Sunday, July 17th @ 3pm

What time does it start? How long does it last?

The Kiddie Kapers Parade begins at 3:00 pm and runs about 1 hour.

What time do I need to be there to walk in the parade?

Arrive to the **parade start by 2pm.** The Parade Marshals meet and greet with your little buckaroos and judge participants for creativity, spunk and adherence to the theme – Ready to Rodeo! Everyone gets a participation award and award ribbons are given to the 1st place winners in each division.

Where can I park?

Options include:

- Steinbeck Center Parking Garage (accessible from Monterey Street)
- Several public parking lots along Monterey Street
- Nearby residential neighborhoods

Get there early for the best parking spot. If you choose to park inside the police barricades, you will not be allowed to move your car until after the parade is over and the streets are clear (about 5 pm). Please refer to the map for the location of street closures.

What's the parade route? How long is it?

The parade route is TO BE DETERMINED.

How do I register? How much does it cost?
No registration, and it's free! Just show up, and every child gets a ribbon with a $1 award! There will be an Information Booth located in front of the Rec Center on Lincoln Avenue to help direct you and answer questions.

Are restrooms available?
To be determined.

What should my kids do?
Be creative and express themselves! The theme of this year's Parade is

Bull-ieve in Yourself

There are 8 Divisions:

1) **Playground Floats** - floats by Salinas' playgrounds & parks organized by the Salinas Recreation & Parks division
2) **Cowboys & Cowgirls** - kids in western dress. The best dressed cowboy and cowgirl ride in the official cars at the front of the parade
3) **Strollers & Wagons** - costumed kids & small, decorated strollers & wagons
4) **Community groups** – local children's organizations and clubs, or friends and family gathered to march
5) **Costumed Kids & Pets** - small animals in costumes and their masters-in-costume
6) **Dance & Drill Teams** - organized baton, dance and marching units
7) **Group Floats** – people-powered floats of all shapes and sizes made by families, friends and neighborhood groups
8) **Rolling Riders** - costumed kids on decorated bicycles

****Children on wheels must wear helmets****

The important thing is that the kids dress up in a costume and have a great time. Get into the spirit by dressing up with your kids if you plan to walk alongside them in the parade.

Can I push my baby in a stroller?

Of course! The **Strollers and Wagons Division** is the perfect fit for you.

Can my children ride their bikes?

Sure! It's important to stay safe – all children must wear a helmet. Decorate it: lights, stickers, silly hair!

Can I hand out candy, balloons, flyers?

No, parade participants may not distribute ANYTHING to the crowd during the parade. This is for the safety of the children participating in the parade as well as the spectators, not to mention it helps to avoid a mess that the City has to clean up. If anyone is caught, they will be asked to stop. We appreciate your understanding!

Can I drive my car in the parade? Can my child drive their little car in the parade?

All floats must be people-powered – no motorized vehicles are allowed, except for the lead cars. Children may drive small electric cars at the back of the parade with the bicycles. Please make sure that the car's battery is charged to make it through the entire parade route.

Are there prizes?

Yes, there are prizes! 1st place winners in each division receive a handsome award ribbon. A cash prize is awarded to the 1st place winner in each Division, with the Cowboys & Cowgirls Division having two 1st place winners, one boy and one girl.

Can my goats, horses, mules walk in the parade?

For the safety of the children, no large livestock are allowed. Dogs are allowed but must be well-behaved and always leashed. Birds and fowls may be in the parade if they are caged. Small livestock are allowed if they are well-behaved and always leashed. Owners are responsible for immediately cleaning up after their pets. The Marshals may ask you to remove your animal at any time if they feel it is detrimental to the parade. You must be in the Costumed Kids & Pets Division.

Still have questions?

Call the Rodeo office at (831) 775-3100. We'll get back to you as soon as we can!