

Newest attraction at Edinburgh International Climbing Arena opens on Friday



A new 'action attraction', first pioneered in New Zealand, is set to launch at Edinburgh's International Climbing Arena (EICA): Ratho on Good Friday (25 March 2016).

Suitable for anyone from 4 to 84 years and beyond, Clip 'n Climb, is being opened by Edinburgh Leisure. Offering a fun and accessible climbing experience presenting participants with a selection of themed challenges on brightly coloured walls, it is the first one in Scotland.

There are 15 different climbing challenges with 20 climbing lines and a maximum capacity of 20 people at each hour's session. Harnessed into a hands-free automatic belay system specifically designed for the climbing industry, climbers have a safe controlled descent after scaling the heights, without the assistance of a partner.

The Edinburgh Reporter went along to have a look (from the ground!) earlier today when children from Ratho Park Primary School were trying it out. There was much excitement and they all looked pretty accomplished climbers in a short time.





Clip n Climb



Remko Plooi, Director of Operations at Edinburgh Leisure said: "The beauty of Clip 'n Climb is that unlike traditional climbing no previous experience or training is required, apart from our statutory 10 minute briefing at the start of each hour's session. There's also not the start-up costs associated with traditional rock climbing.

“It offers the challenge of climbing in a safe, accessible environment and it really does appeal to everyone from 4 to 84 years and beyond – something the whole family can participate in. The introduction of Clip ‘n Climb at Ratho compliments all the other activities we have on offer: soft play, climbing in the amazing arena, a fantastic gym and let’s not forget the cafe and guarantees a great day out for the whole family.”

Heather Tumblety, a P5 teacher from Ratho Primary said “The youngsters are ecstatic to be the first to try out the new activity. Even talking about it has made more of the children in our school want to get involved in climbing – and that’s without even trying.

“The brightly coloured climbing walls will be great for children’s problem solving skills, as well as engaging them in the activity.”

Opening times vary depending on school holidays and term time so check the EICA:Ratho website. To book: www.eica-ratho.co.uk

Clip ‘n Climb, Edinburgh Leisure’s half million pound investment, has created seven new jobs.

Thanks to Jane Barlow | photographer for today’s photos

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