



SUMMER



Fifty Summer Activities for Parents to do with Kids

Are your kids out of school and you are trying to figure out how to keep them occupied throughout the summer? Have no fear, I've got you covered. Here are 50 activities you can do with the kids both indoors and outdoors. Many of them are FREE but others may require a little spending. While older kids may be able to do some of the activities at home themselves, don't be afraid to jump in on the fun with some of them, too!!

Note: These are written in no particular order and although our kids are not in school yet, we have done many of these activities with them. So much fun!!! Also, not all activities may suite kids of all ages, but most of them will.

AT HOME

1. **Picnic:** Have a picnic in your back or front yard.
2. **Movie Night:** Indoor movie night with pop-corn, lots of pillows and blankets.
3. **Family Pajama Party/Sleepover:** Host a family PJ party and sleepover in the living or family room. The kids will love it!
4. **Backyard Camping:** Camp out in your backyard overnight.
5. **Pool:** Go swimming in your backyard pool if you have one or purchase a cheap plastic pool and set it outside with water so the kids can play in it.
6. **Water Play:** Fill up some buckets and provide bowls, cups, and things to deep and pour.
7. **Sand Box:** Create a sand box using real or fake sand. Provide lots of bowls, cups, little shovels, etc.

8. **Bubble Blowing:** Kids love blowing bubbles – have a bubble blowing party outside
9. **Ball Games:** I have not met a kid who does not like playing with a ball. The kids could play pretend baseball, basketball, soccer etc. at home.
10. **Star Watching:** Chill out on the porch or backyard and watch the stars.
11. **Game Night:** Got some favorite games? Why not call an official game night into action?!
12. **Play Dates:** Invite a few friends over for a time of games and snacks.
13. **Cook/Bake:** Make something together. Homemade cookies or ice-cream are always fun choices.
14. **Dress-Up Day:** Girls as well as boys love dressing up. Make the event special by providing all kinds of random dress up fun stuff from around the home.
15. **Art Evening:** Call an official art evening of painting and coloring fun!
16. **Crafting** – Craft something and make it one that the kids could enjoy and would take longer than 10 minutes.
17. **Garden:** Plant a fruit, vegetable, or flower garden together.
18. **Lemonade Stand:** Set up a lemonade stand out front so the kids could sell cold lemonade to passer-byers on a hot summer day.
19. **Summer Party:** Throw a summer party with the kids friends and family or with your own family friends.
20. **Stay-Cation:** Set up a little vacation area at home. Pretend you are away.

OUTDOORS

1. **Park:** Go to the Park – Never gets old!
2. **Tennis Court:** Try a tennis game or two.
3. **Nature Walking:** Go nature walking near-by.
4. **Hiking:** Go for a hike and wear the kids out!
5. **Swimming:** Go swimming in a near-by community pool

6. **Picnic outdoors:** Kids love picnics! Find a quiet area outdoors and go have a picnic. Lunch is always a good option – we love nibble trays!
7. **Outdoor Camping:** Go on a camping trip with family and friends if you choose.
8. **Museum:** Visit a museum – Many of them have free days.
9. **Animal Farm:** Visit an animal farm. The kids may even love feeding them.
10. **Forest Reserve:** Take a little trip to a Forest Reserve and observe all the wonders of nature.
11. **Go-Karting:** Older kids may find this activity fun.
12. **Duck Pond:** Visit a pond and watch the ducks swim.
13. **Indoor Play Place:** Younger children love playing in indoor play places such as the ones in Chick-Fil-A, McDonald's, and the Mall.
14. **Amusement Parks:** Amusement parks are always fun!
15. **Food Farm:** Visit a fruit or vegetable farm and have fun picking!
16. **Splash Pad:** Kids love the idea of water splashing all over them.
17. **Circus:** How about the circus? Kids would love seeing people “clown” around. No pun intended!
18. **Zoo:** A trip to the zoo is always a good option.
19. **Beach:** Take a trip to the beach if there is one near you or near enough.
20. **Library:** Go to the library to borrow some favorite books or movies.
21. **Friends:** Visit with friends.
22. **Biking:** Go Bike Riding with the family.
23. **Farmer's Market:** Trip to a Farmer's Market to purchase some fresh healthy foods.
24. **Bowling:** Go bowling (if they are old enough).
25. **Horseback Riding:** Both small children and older kids can enjoy this activity.
26. **Ice-Cream Shop:** Go out for ice-cream or frozen yogurt.

27. **Dine Out:** Eat dinner in your favorite restaurant at least one time if you could afford it.
28. **Food Tasting:** Go food testing downtown. There are many places where they give out food all day so people can try them for free.
29. **Have a cook-out:** Find a park where your family can have a little cook-out. Some friends may be invited, too.
30. **Vacation:** If you can afford it, take a vacation out of town for a few days or a couple weeks. It is always a cheaper option to drive to a near-by state.

Hope these are enough to give you some ideas of how to keep your kiddos entertained during the summer months.

Courtesy,

Flourishing At Home (<http://flourishingathome.com>)