

Fifty ways to Play and Learn at Home

1. Build a fort or den out of bed linen and towels.
2. Do some baking together - fairy cakes and biscuits are easy
3. Using a small safe knife cut some vegetables to make soup
4. Make play dough
5. Draw a picture or make a card to post to a family member.
6. Blow bubbles (make your own with fairy liquid and water)
7. Write with chalk outside
8. Experiment with water - use empty bottles of different types, shapes and sizes and a basin of water.
9. Set up a play grocery shop with household items
10. Perfume making - old bottles, water, herbs, flowers,
11. Make an obstacle course inside or outside
12. Bubble art
13. Blow painting with straws
14. Finger painting
15. Free play Junk art
16. Cutting practice
17. Dressing up box fashion show (works best with parents clothes...)
18. Make your own musical instruments
19. Set up a mud kitchen with some old pots pans, spoons etc
20. Gardening - sweeping, weeding
21. Paint an outside wall with water (big up and down and side to side movements)
22. Make paper finger puppets
23. Cut up straws and string them on to wool to make jewellery
24. Cut up large pictures from magazines to make jigsaws
25. Make a collage of pictures or natural things like leaves and flowers
26. Have a treasure hunt around the house (use objects as clues e.g. a spoon in the bathroom could be a clue to go to the kitchen, the t.v. remote in the cutlery drawer could be a clue to go to the living room etc.)
27. Play I spy (with colours or letters)
28. Make pirate treasure maps - stain them with old tea
29. Secret message painting draw a picture with a white crayon or candle on a page, wash over it with watery paint to reveal the hidden picture.
30. Use torches in dark spaces - under the table (with a big sheet or table cloth over it is good).
31. Play musical statues
32. Wrapping up empty boxes using blunt scissors and tape.
33. Play Simon Says
34. Help to wash the windows or the car with large soapy sponges
35. Make a book - folded paper
36. Loose parts art - some buttons, bottle lids/tops, small stones etc - create a picture.
37. Potion making - food colouring, water, empty bottles
38. Shadow puppets
39. Bug bingo mini beast hunt
40. Bird watch
41. Bark rubbing or brick rubbing (any textured surface)
42. Rock painting
43. Sock puppet story
44. Make a bird feeder - thread cheerios onto a string/pipe cleaner, push seeds into an apple, or cover a yoghurt pot in peanut butter roll in crushed up cereal
45. Make a fish tank out of a cereal box
46. Set up a tea party for a tiger (or a toy animal of your choice)
47. Indoor skittles, use kitchen roll tubes and a small soft ball
48. Paper plate face masks
49. Make and test out yoghurt pot telephones
50. Make a robot out of junk art and tinfoil