Activities for Home

1. Treasure hunt (with clues, hide a favourite toy somewhere in the house)
2. [Make a batch of play doh](https://livingwellmom.com/easy-homemade-playdough-recipe/)
3. Tint shaving cream with food colouring, paint the windows or glass doors (or the inside of the shower glass) then rinse it off
4. Play dress ups in mum and dad’s clothes – do a photoshoot
5. Graffiti the garden fence with chalk
6. Make a small bowl, plate, egg cup or statue from air dry clay
7. Go through old photos and videos, and old craft and paintings
8. Have a Living Room disco – play freeze, musical chairs, have a dance off
9. Go through recipe books together and have a bake off challenge
10. [Do a garden scavenger hunt](https://heyletsmakestuff.com/printable-back-yard-scavenger-hunt/)
11. Make Origami animals or paper ninja stars
12. Gardening – pull weeds, trim bushes, collect flowers for a vase
13. Make a mud kitchen in the garden
14. Organise the books on your shelf into a rainbow of colours
15. String up a sheet tent in the backyard
16. Using Lego characters or other small toys, make a stop motion movie (download the app Stop Motion to your phone or Ipad)
17. Organise your Lego and then have a building challenge. Who can build the best house, hotel or shop?
18. Write notes of love, compliments or doodles and hide them around the house for family to find
19. Do a [marshmallow toothpick engineering challenge](https://playteachrepeat.com/marshmallow-toothpick-building-challenge/)
20. Try shadow drawing, leaf rubbings, painting bark or stones
21. [Build a bug hotel](https://www.pinterest.com.au/pin/417568196702254667/)
22. Try [leaf threading](https://kidscraftroom.com/all-natural-leaf-threading/) and [make a nature chandelier](https://www.pinterest.com.au/pin/120471358752239565/)
23. Use a mirror to draw a self portrait
24. Create an [Alfoi river](https://www.pinterest.com.au/pin/120471358754159749/) in the garden and float things down it (tin foil river)
25. Create an obstacle course
26. Build a fort using the couch and every cushion/pillow you can find
27. Thread pasta into jewellery
28. Make [3D paper rainbows](https://teachpreschool.org/2012/03/07/paper-rainbows-and-the-ten-second-rule/)
29. Put goggles and swimmers on and swim in the bath
30. Go through your board/card games and challenge yourself to play them all. Design your own game
31. Make greeting cards for the stationery cupboard to be used for birthdays and other occasions
32. Paint a family portrait to be framed and hung
33. Choose a picture book each and read aloud to each other in the biggest bed in your house
34. Write a short story or poem that includes a dog, an umbrella and some chips
35. Find 10 different shaped leaves in the garden
36. Create a paper crown for a member of your family and decorate it
37. Make a [paper chain](https://www.pinterest.com.au/pin/20618110782314477/) to hang up
38. Fold paper and cut out paper snowflakes
39. Play drawing games like [Simon Says drawing](http://www.momto2poshlildivas.com/2012/06/playing-simon-says-draw-to-practice.html)
40. Put on a puppet show using toys behind the couch
41. Create a sensory shaker bottle using an old bottle, glitter and water (and whatever else you’d like to put in there!)
42. Outdoor games like egg and spoon race, tag team races, three legged races, or play stuck in the mud
43. Fold paper planes and see how far they will fly
44. Build the highest block tower you can
45. Learn how to bake bread
46. Keep a balloon in the air as long as possible
47. Build a house with a deck of cards
48. Play cinema – make tickets, popcorn, give your guests a rug and watch a movie together
49. Play hotels using your bedrooms as ‘hotel rooms’ or restaurants by setting up the dining room like a restaurant with menus (or hospitals, vets, banks, etc)
50. Make up a workout and do it together (eg: 25 star jumps, 20 squats, 15 crunches, hop like a bunny around the lounge room, frog leap your partner)
51. Choose an inspirational quote and create a poster for your room
52. Change the bedsheets and build a sheet city in your bedroom before they get washed!
53. Press flowers within a few heavy books
54. Use masking tape to make a race track. Race matchbox cars. Or use the inside of your bathtub as a ramp for racing
55. With some old clothes, cut and create clothes for your toys
56. Take some artistic photos in black and white. Play around with filters and see what you can create. You could use a phone or learn how to use the proper camera (if you have one)
57. Water play – buckets, scoopers, whisk, pouring jugs, straws, bubbles!
58. Have a picnic lunch in your garden. Take books and toys with you
59. Sort through all your crafts and art supplies. See if something inspires you. Organise and sharpen all your pencils and test all your markers
60. Skipping rope – can you get to 100 without stopping?
61. Research your family tree – see how far back you can go
62. Make a time capsule of this time to be opened in 10 years
63. Wash the car or your bike!
64. Set up camp in the garden and play inside the tent
65. Write a letter to a friend, relative or teacher to email
66. Lie on a rug in the garden and spot cloud shapes. Make up a story about what you see.
67. Work together to a family emblem, motto or song. Include elements that are important to you and your family
68. [Interview](http://thesoltropsix.com/2018/09/23/interview-questions-to-ask-your-kids-every-year-free-printable/) the members of your family
69. Can you [draw or paint with your feet](https://www.pinterest.com.au/pin/350295677269361258/)?
70. Do a Yoga class together

Den or cave building

There is probably not a single child between 1 and 10 who doesn’t like to build and play in dens or caves.

Children’s imaginations go wild with this activity. From planning the build - what will they use to make their den? Can they gather the materials themselves? - to playing inside of it, each step is an absolute pleasure. Hopefully they’ll be inspired to come up with exciting, fun-filled role play, or simply enjoy a change the scene and play with their toys ‘hidden away’ in their cave.

The easiest way to create a stable den is through using a blanket or bed sheet and cover a table or some other furniture moved together. You can create quite a spacious den using four chairs arranged in a square with the blanket placed over the back rests. Add few cushions added into the cave and your kids will have a great time for sure.

Rice play

Take a messy play tray or a washing up bowl. Fill it with any uncooked rice and pop in several things to help your kids to become rice-panning-experts: Spoons, bowls, cups, balls, toys - anything you can think of really. The kids love it; it’s like messy play without the mess. Rice is way easier to clean up than teeny-tiny sand grains. So everyone wins!

A housebound treasure hunt

Create a map of your home and hide small items around it. Mark each piece of hidden treasure on the map. Explain the map to your little one and offer your support for the hunting game in case they need it.

If your kids are older you can use word cards describing a place where you have hidden an item. For example: “I am cold and make a ‘bing bing’ noise if left open”. The answer is the fridge, of course. Children love this combination of a quiz and hunt. It’s hard not to get in on the fun, too.

Even once they’ve found all the treasure, why not get them to organise their own hunt? They can draw their own map or come up with their own cryptic questions to send you on a great search.

Life size drawings

Stick a load of A4 sheets of paper together (or if you have a big paper roll even better!) and place it on the floor. Encourage the kids to lie down on it and outline their body with a pen. From this moment on there is no way to stop the kids getting creative: colour in, add accessories to the figures like stickers or stamps, design clothes with old material offcuts or other things you might find in the art drawer.

Kids indoor gym

Transform your living room into a kid’s gym and create some fun and age-appropriate sports stations. You can put a trail of paper sheets on the floor which the kids have to walk over without touching anything else but the paper. Time jumping on the spot, which can be made more difficult for older kids (maybe they have to spin around while jumping).

A planking station is great fun as well. If you have a soft carpet or mattress you can try some somersaults with them if they are old enough (take care that they don’t hurt their neck!). Any other kind of gymnastic exercise which is performed only with their own body weight is great.

To make it more competitive you can use the stopwatch to time the duration of each exercise. But make sure to stick to age-appropriate durations. It’s about the fun and switching back and forth between the stations rather than aiming for the next world record.

A roadway created across the house with insulation tape

Play mats are great fun for kids. They give them a great setting to get imaginative with their toys. But what if you created your own one? You could grab some tape and make roads all over the carpet. Think about how they will connect up, where they will lead to, and what sights you might need to add along the way.

Paper maché

Making 3D art is great fun. Inflate a balloon, grab some newspaper and a PVA glue/water mix, and get creating!

Cookie decorating!

Colouring-in

Making a lantern

Making an easy [wintery lantern](https://www.toucanbox.com/activities/easy-to-create-snowman-lantern).

An indoor fashion show

Get your favourite clothes, dress ups or even mummy's clothes out and strike a pose!

Creating your own TV show

You could use toys, puppets and even film your debut episode!