What Kids Like To Do

Most infants like:
• to be held, rocked, tickled, sung to, or read books with colorful pictures.
• to hear you say what you are doing, like feeding, etc.
• short walks outside or inside the house. (Describe what they see, touch, smell, & hear or count objects while pointing them out.)
• to play peak-a-boo by hiding behind a towel or a mirror.
• music and fingerplays (pat-a-cake, etc.), or roll a ball.

For Toddlers add:
• dump, fill, move, put together, and take apart.
• run, jump, hide, climb (leaves, pillows, snow).
• play pretend (house, store, library, zoo, museum, bank).
• sing or dance, imitate you, sweep, etc.
• paint with water, play with cups/lids in water.
• tricycle, slide, swing, climb jungle gym, play ball.
• play Hide & Seek, Simon Says, & London Bridge.
• build with blocks or Legos.
• search for rocks, leaves, etc.

Most school-agers like:
• athletic or competitive games, races.
• trips to gardens, museums, libraries, etc.
• camping, fishing, biking, hiking, picnics, amusement & waterparks.
• board games: Monopoly, Scrabble, Candyland, checkers, chess.
• card games: Uno, Go Fish.
• computer games or educational videos.
• making favorite snacks (Rice Krispie Treats, PB&J, etc.)
• putting on a play with costumes and props.
• making crafts like jewelry, candles, and sand art.
• rulers, scales, magnets, thermometers, magnifying glasses, balls, binoculars.
• planting in a garden.

For teens add:
• shopping.
• eating out.
• going to movies.
• watching TV.
• computers.
• solitary games & privacy.

Indoor Ideas:
• Draw, Paint, Finger Paint
• Board Games
• Dress Up
• Nature Journal
• Legos
• Read Aloud, Reading Club
• Coloring
• Puzzles
• Card Games
• Tea Party
• Press Flowers
• Blocks
• Take Photos
• Play Instruments, Sing
• Read Newspaper, Discuss Current Events

Outdoor Ideas:
• Library, Museum, Zoo
• Theatre
• Park, Hike
• Bike
• Swim, Beach
• Sprinkler
• Water Garden, Weed Garden
• Catch Bugs, Find Worms
• Build Fort
• Kick Ball
• Sandbox
• Finger Paint
• Rake Leaves
• Leaf Paths
• Bubbles
• Wash Car
• Sidewalk Art

Messy/Noisy Ideas:
• Cardboard Sculptures
• Pompom Creatures
• Make Glue
• Make Slime
• Rubber Stamps
• Face Painting
• Play Dough
• Glitter/Glitter Pens
• Glue Pens
• Snip, Rip, Glue
• Collage
• Paper Maché
• Clay
• Make Music
• Sew
• Cook