

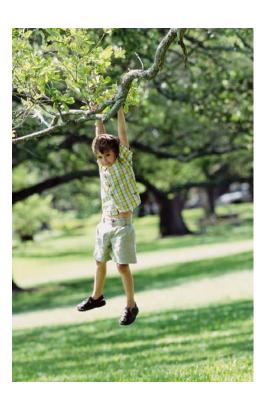
101 fun ways to play with your child

- 1. use water or ice cubes to "paint" outside
- 2. make chalk drawings on the sidewalk or driveway
- 3. use a stick to draw in the dirt
- 4. kick a ball around
- 5. play catch
- 6. play hopscotch
- 7. make puppets with "leftover" socks
- 8. play freeze tag
- 9. pretend: "What if...you were a balloon? a deer? a raindrop?"
- 10. blow bubbles
- 11. ride trikes and bikes
- 12. swing together
- 13. play in the local park
- 14. pick dandelions, braid them, wear them
- 15. pack a picnic and take it somewhere check out the ants when they visit!
- 16. make your own milkshake or smoothie
- 17. look at baby pictures
- 18. lie down and watch the clouds
- 19. play in sand
- 20. tag, you're it!
- 21. cut or tear junk mail, make a collage
- 22. play marbles (use pebbles)
- 23. collect pebbles, notice their colors
- 24. play "family", your child chooses roles
- 25. dance to music
- 26. sing along with the radio
- 27. wash dishes together

- 28. jump rope
- 29. do jumping jacks
- 30. play "Simon Says" or "Susie Says"
- 31. try to catch bugs, admire them, release
- 32. trace each other's shadow in the dirt
- 33. plant seeds, nurture them, watch them grow
- 34. jump in puddles SPLASH
- 35. turn off the TV and read together
- 36. look at books together
- 37. look for reflections in puddles
- 38. go on a nature hunt find a smooth pebble, something green, a leaf, etc.
- 39. make a sheet tent over a clothesline
- 40. make a sheet tent over chairs or couch
- 41. look for patterns and textures
- 42. get a FREE library card USE it!
- 43. play category games name all that you can think of: fruit, clothing, animals, etc.
- 44. take a walk
- 45. make popsicles
- 46. run around the outside of your house
- 47. play with fridge magnets
- 48. play in mud get DIRTY!
- 49. play hide and seek
- 50. color, draw or scribble with crayons on paper
- 51. crawl around on your lawn be a horse!
- 52. play with flour on the table
- 53. hang out with friends or family
- 54. play "I spy with my little eye..."
- 55. visit a pet store (you don't have to buy!)

- 56. mini golf it's free for under 3 at Fore-U
- 57. buy a baby ice cream cone
- 58. write a story your child tells
- 59. have your child illustrate it
- 60. make up your own songs!
- 61. tell each other silly jokes
- 62. splash in a bucket of water outside
- 63. see how far you can spit watermelon seeds
- 64. dance around the house to the radio
- 65. pick berries eat a lot in the patch!
- 66. cook and bake together let them measure, pour, stir, break eggs, decorate the cookies, spread the sauce, etc
- 67. pick your Halloween pumpkins
- 68. go sledding
- 69. make a snowman
- 70. make snow angels
- 71. go to the beach
- 72. make sand angels
- 73. look for seashells
- 74. pull each other around in a wagon
- 75. catch snowflakes on your tongue
- 76. chase butterflies (but don't catch them)
- 77. find the answer to a question your child asks look it up
- 78. read TO your child before bedtime every night
- 79. find earthworms, put them in a garden

- 80. gather beautiful leaves, press them under something heavy
- 81. make a leaf pile and jump in it!
- 82. swing from a low branch
- 83. visit your local swimming hole
- 84. make a treasure hunt in your backyard
- 85. attend a free community concert
- 86. make up songs for everyday activities sing while changing diapers, washing hands, getting dressed, putting on lotion, taking a bath, etc.
- 87. get creative with household items let your imaginations run wild!
- 88. throw pebbles into a river or lake or even a puddle notice the splash, watch the ripples
- 89. build forts out of couch cushions
- 90. check out wildflowers if you don't know what they are, identify them with a book
- 91. notice and identify birds
- 92. look for fish, frogs, salamanders and snails
- 93. play Chutes and Ladders, Candyland or UNO
- 94. make playdough
- 95. play Leapfrog!
- 96. do each other's hair
- 97. play Charades make up your own
- 98. make lemonade, set up a lemonade stand
- 99. wrestle keep it fun!
- 100. pick a bouquet of wildflowers
- 101. be silly! laugh and laugh and laugh!





The Family Place 2008