

HOLIDAY IDEAS – UNPLUGGED



But first one online idea – if you can't access books for reading:

Amazon today cancelled the subscription of books and audio stories for children and students of all ages as long as schools are closed, kids everywhere can instantly stream an incredible collection of stories, including titles across six different languages, that will help them continue dreaming, learning, and just being kids.

All stories are free to stream on your desktop, laptop, phone or tablet using the following link <https://stories.audible.com/start-listen>.

Play is an important part of learning and creativity, so I encourage everyone to focus on that during the holidays, rather than any school work. So here is a list (not exhaustive) of things you might like to do while at home these holidays. While there are a few hyperlinks to websites for further explanation, they do not require the computer on the whole.

At Home: Inside

1. Become a designer – design clothes or simple machines.
2. [Bake cupcakes](#). Have a cup cake or iced biscuit competition by taking photos and sharing online with friends.
3. Make a cubby house under the table.
4. Play inside games like hide and seek, or duck, duck goose or musical statues, simon says.
5. Make homemade pizza.
6. Dance to music.
7. Have a theme day. This may be butterflies, pirates, princesses, fairies, dinosaurs or a particular colour.
8. Make an inside obstacle course with cushions, pillows, boxes, chairs and blankets.
9. Make a “city” with cars, toys and boxes for buildings. Or make a diorama in a box or terrarium miniature landscape in a pot.
10. Play dress ups and do a play. Perhaps make a movie.
11. Make a themed play space: in a large rectangle bucket or tray create your own play scene. For example: use a smaller container (like an empty margarine container) filled with water, and in the rectangle bucket place rocks, small twigs, bark or sticks from trees for an outdoor scene. I love this one from [Picklebums](#).
12. Go on a colour hunt in your house. Collect objects of a certain colour and take a picture of your finds to make a collage. Also an idea by Picklebums.

13. Buy a note book and get the child/ren to write a school holiday diary (or draw pictures every day for young children).
14. Reorganise the children's room (with their help).
15. Make [fruit Kebabs](#).
16. Write a letter to someone. Write a story.
17. Play board games, read or listen to audio books or do puzzles.
18. Have a dress ups fashion parade.
19. Have a craft day.
20. Have a lego building contest and share photos with friends online.
21. Have a tea party.
22. Play charades or Who am I? (place a post-it note on someone's forehead with the name of someone famous or something) where people have to guess by asking yes/no questions.
23. Try some of the old fashioned games like hopscotch, skipping, elastics, knucklebones (use whatever you have around – like dried beans etc.).
24. Card games like rummy, memory games, snap etc.
25. Indoor bowling with empty plastic bottles and a plastic ball.

At Home: Outside

1. Hang a sheet from a tree to make an outside cubby house.
2. Fly (cut to length) crepe streamers in the wind.
3. Eat outside.
4. Do general gardening or plant a vegetable or herb garden.
5. Make an outside obstacle course. Click [here](#) for ideas.
6. [Play Backyard games](#).
7. Blow bubbles. [Frills in the Hills](#) has a great recipe for homemade bubble mixture.
8. Do an outside treasure hunt or a bug hunt.
9. Create an outdoor play garden. Create a small space of dirt and fill with pots, small rake, bucket, spoons, utensils and solid plastic toys like animal figurines. I like this one from [The Imagination Tree](#).
10. [Make a flower head wreath](#).
11. Make sand castles.
12. Paint on paths with water.

At Home: Arty and Crafty

1. [Make fairy wings](#).
2. Make a Zorro mask out of a strip of black material with two eye cut outs. Or have a masquerade party.
3. Create a family artwork on a large canvas.
4. Make recycled paper.
5. Collect flowers and press them inside book between baking paper. Make leaf rubbings.
6. Colour-in. You can print a variety of colouring in sheets online.
7. [Face painting](#).
8. [Make Photo Paper Dolls](#). Take a photo of family members, print them out and make them into paper dolls. You could even pop them onto a popstick to use as puppets.
9. Make a robot out of cardboard boxes.
10. Make a [treasure map](#) out of brown paper.
11. Make a musical tree. See [here](#) for details.
12. Be crafty at home: knit, paper craft, play dough, salt dough, cooking or painting.
13. Start drawing or painting (including finger painting).
14. Paint toe nails. (Boys like this too!)
15. Make boats out of milk bottle lids, a straw (for the mast), paper (for the sail) and blue-tack to stick the sail on to the boat.
16. Make a leaf collage picture.
17. Glue cut out pictures from a magazine or junk mail to a piece of paper.
18. Make a photo book: take photos of your favourite things and collate them into a book. Or a scrap book of favourite things (or any topic you like).
19. Make sock puppets by gluing wool on the top of an old sock and using a permanent marker to draw eyes, nose and a mouth.
20. Do a self-portrait. Stick a large piece of butcher's paper (or tape several pages together) to the wall (or lay on the floor) and trace around your body. Or attach a piece of paper to the wall, turn off the lights and shine a torch at someone's side-on face to project a silhouette onto the piece of paper. Trace around it to make a cameo-like portrait.
21. Make a long paper-clip chain.
22. Make cards (perhaps for birthdays or Christmas).
23. Make models from papier mache (newspaper and flour and water or glue).
24. Decorate pebbles.

25. Decorate old jars and containers. Glass jars can make good candle holders and by gluing paper onto the outside they cast amazing shadows.
26. Make teddy bears and other creatures from flannels and socks.
27. Make wind chimes with odds and ends and hang them outside or by a window.

At Night

1. Look at the stars. In the day time – look at clouds.
2. Have a movie night. You can make your own popcorn cups by making a cone shape with a piece of paper and taping it together.
3. Toast marshmallows in the oven before threading them on to sticks (parent would do this).

Science & Technology Design

1. Food colouring experiments – set up jars of water with different food colours and dip in vegetables, flowers or anything else you can think of.
2. Try stacking different liquids (water, oil, syrup) in a glass jar to see which ones rise to the top and which ones sink (use food colouring to differentiate the liquids and you can use a drinking straw as a dropper/pipet). You can also see what items you can float at different levels in the container (some will float at the very top and some will float on the top of one liquid but sink below another). Check out what items float and what sink in water too.
3. Make a kite and fly it.
4. Make an ant farm.
5. Go on a bug hunt.
6. Perfect the art of paper plane/helicopter making or try making a parachute for a little toy.
7. Try making a boat to hold toys or a paper bridge/seat to hold the weight of toys.
8. Try making the tallest unsupported tower you can out of paper and sticky tape, or sticks/popsticks/drinking straws (if you have any of those now) and tape/glue/thread/blutak/playdough – whatever you have to hand.
9. Stack cups or cards to make towers or walls.

For 63 easy Science Experiments for Kids Using Household Stuff - check out

<https://mommypoppins.com/kids/50-easy-science-experiments-for-kids-fun-educational-activities-using-household-stuff> or

<https://sciencebob.com/category/experiments/>

Many ideas taken from

<https://www.beafunmum.com/2011/06/100-school-holiday-activity-ideas/>

<https://www.stayathomemum.com.au/my-kids/activities/50-cheap-school-holiday-activities/>