

# IN THE Summer TIME

Austin  
★  
TITLE

## 50 FUN THINGS TO DO WITH KIDDOS



- Bike rides. Take your kids out for a fun bike ride, either near your house, or on a bike trail. Since it's a hot summer day, make sure to bring water.
- Make ice cream. There isn't a kid in the world who would refuse ice cream on a hot summer day. This is a great kids activity in which parents can easily monitor.
- Meet friends at the local playground. Call up your friends and let the kids hang out together at a local playground, where they can play on swingsets, merry go rounds, and more.
- Have a picnic at a local or state park. Getting kids together for a picnic at a local or state park can be a fun group activity.
- Sidewalk chalk murals. Get some fun colored chalk for your kids and you can create some really fun chalk murals and designs.
- Backyard camping. Your kids may be too small to go camping at a campsite or park, but why not start in the backyard?
- Check out the local county fair. Most major cities will have some sort of carnival or county fair which will definitely delight your kids.
- Kids science experiments. If your kids want to stay indoors, no problem – increase their brain power and curiosity with awesome fun and easy science experiments!
- Local tennis camp. Tennis is one of those sports that most kids don't get to play during the school year. But your town likely has a fun kids tennis camp that your kid can enjoy.
- Make a kaleidoscope. This would be fun to do if it happens to rain, or even if you want something different to do with your kids!
- Sidewalk foam paint. There are other creative ways to write on your sidewalk! You and your kids can make some perfectly harmless shaving cream paint by mixing cheap shaving cream and washable paint in all colors.
- Water balloon baseball. Sometimes, combining two summer activities can make for an exciting way to play outside. Just take a whiffle ball bat and fill up some water balloons. Now, you can play baseball with a splash!
- DIY bird feeder. This kid friendly bird feeder takes toilet paper rolls spread with peanut butter and rolled in bird seed. After hanging it on a branch, your kids can watch as the birds come get something to eat!
- Homemade Playdough. This can be done in less than 10 minutes and is very easy to make. Check out the many recipes online on how to make colorful playdough with your kiddos.
- Make a fort out of cardboard boxes.
- Stage an A-to-Z scavenger hunt, where you have to find something that starts with every letter.
- Set up a lemonade stand and raise some money for a good cause.
- Practice making interesting shadow puppets and then put on a show with your characters.
- Visit your local library. The library has more than just books for children. Many of them have other activities and toys designed for each age. They also offer audiobooks and educational computer games!
- Backyard stargazing. Put out a few blankets and lie down in the backyard, and gaze upon the stars. Show your kids how to locate Orion's Belt and many other stars.
- Build a fort or tent. Take an afternoon and push your couches close together. Drape them with blankets or sheets and eat a snack or play a game under your fort or tent!
- Play hide and seek in the dark. Mix up plain old hide and seek with hide and seek in the dark! Black out your windows and prep areas that may be hazardous. It certainly makes for great entertainment!
- Make milk carton boats. Take an old milk carton and shape it in the fashion of a boat. You can even paint it and stick a toothpick in it with a taped flag! Test it out by putting it in water in the sink or bath. Does it float? If not, your kids can brainstorm on how to fix it.
- Do a puzzle together. When searching for the right puzzle, look for the correct age group. There are specific difficulty levels out there! It can be a wonderful time to bond with your kids and work together to solve a puzzle.

- Visit a splash park. Some are free and others aren't, but this would be a fun outing for your kids! Anything with water is a score with the household. Beating the heat is possible!
- Write in shaving cream. This may get messy, but what a fun way to write! If you're prepared for the mess, have your kids practice their ABCs. You can go outside in the sunshine!
- Paint rocks. Are you one with rocks everywhere in your yard or nearby? Have fun painting faces or designs on rocks with your kids. You could use these as door stoppers or paper weights!
- Balloon tennis. Using paper plates, paint stirrers, and air-blown balloons, you can easily make this fun summer kids' activity for the outside. You could also play this inside since you are hitting a balloon!
- Squirt gun water painting. With water color paper, watercolors, an easel, and a squirt gun, you can paint when you shoot! The easel is to help clip the paper while you shoot. Be careful they don't squirt you!
- Water bag piñata. Have a blast busting this piñata. The only exception? It's filled with water! Let your kids have fun filling it up with water and then hitting it to feel the homemade waterfall!
- DIY sponge balls. This is a fantastic homemade game or yard toss. Buy some fun looking sponges or use what you got! Drench them in water and soap and get ready to be soaked in the hot summer fun!
- Paper plate horseshoes. Cutting off the outside of paper plates, have your kids paint them and toss them around a grounded paper towel roll! This is a great kids' summer activity or game for a rainy day.
- Plant flowers or vegetables. Use the summer to teach your kids how to plant! Plant flowers or vegetables in your flower bed or in a pot by your home. They can water it every day and watch them bloom!
- Go to the farmer's market. You don't have to travel far to open up your kids' worlds. Going to your local farmer's market can be a fun outing as well as a way for showing them all of the different and colorful foods!
- Dig for fossils. Parents, this will mean you'll have to prep, but the fun your kids will have is a lasting effect. Bury different items in dirt-filled shoeboxes and have your kids discover different items!
- Egg drop. Obtain a set of eggs you don't mind wasting and have your kids come up with inventive ways to secure and protect an egg so that when you drop it from a window it does not break. This can include placing the egg inside a shoebox filled with foam, or any of other creative methods out there.
- Feed the ducks. There are places that either have ducks for you to feed (the zoo) or a local pond/lake. You can bring scraps of bread or buy the food these places have provided!
- Berry picking. Now is the time to indulge in the season! From strawberries, blueberries, raspberries, to blackberries, there are places in your state that will let you pick them for free or for a small entrance fee.
- Plant a butterfly garden. There are over 750 types of species of butterflies, and you can attract all kinds to your garden with these. A list of flowers to start out will feed the attraction, as well as having an organic one. Gardening is a great summer activity that kids can learn and enjoy from!
- Go hiking. Pick an easy hiking trail to do with your kids first and then weekly, during the summer, you can choose a more advanced trail. Look up your local parks or trails to see what your area has to offer.
- Visit your local lake/beach trip. Try searching for nearby lakes or beaches. Make it a day trip if you need to. It is a fun, cheap way to create summer memories with your kids. Pack a lunch and find a good spot!
- Run in the sprinkler. This is a cool, easy way to beat the heat, especially with toddlers. Set up your hose sprinklers or installed yard sprinklers, have the kids put on swimsuits, bring towels, and turn on the water!
- Take an early morning/late night walk. Right when you wake up, take a walk while pushing your kids, before the real heat begins. You could also do a pajama walk right before bed. Either way, your kids will be relaxed on this awesome summer activity!
- Bean bag toss. Using a sewing machine, you can sew fabric and buy beans to make the bags. Kids will feel accomplished and appreciate the game more when they create it. Toss the bags in your backyard or in buckets.
- Visit a swimming pool. Of all the places to get wet, this is the most popular. Take your kids to visit a pool and play toss in the water. Have them dive for objects or float around on a noodle or tube.
- Go to the movies. Find a family movie to see together, one that will incorporate all ages. Getting tickets online, ahead of time, will save time and energy once you get to the theater!
- Blow bubbles. Whether it's with a bubble machine for \$5 or a single set of bubbles to blow out of, bubbles lighten the mood and do wonders for entertainment. Younger kids will enjoy running through them or blowing them!
- Fly a kite. Pick a clear area to run and fly a kite of your choice. Flying a kite teaches your kids patience and coordination. A plus is that they are pretty to watch high in the sky, with a bright sun, during a fun summer day!
- Color changing flowers. Obtain glasses to hold one flower at a time. After pouring them half full of water, put a couple drops of different dye colors in each. Each glass should have a white flower inside. Slowly, they will change!
- Craft with pipe cleaners. By simply taking different colors of pipe cleaners and fluff balls, you can create different creatures. This includes bugs, butterflies, animals, etc. Let your inventive kids take the reins on this one.
- Make a video. Take the family video camera and have your kids video record the summery nature outside with commentary, conduct talk shows outside, or be actors and actresses.