

50 Fun Summer Activities for Families from UNICEF

1. Bike rides. Take your kids out for a fun bike ride, either near your house, or if the kids are older, take them on a bike trail. If it's a hot summer day, make sure to bring water!
2. Make ice cream. There isn't a kid (or parent) in the world who would refuse ice cream on a hot summer day. This is a great kids activity which parents can easily monitor. Here's a great [guide](#) on creating your very own vanilla ice cream.
3. Meet friends at the local playground. Call up your friends and let the kids hang out together at a local playground.
4. Have a picnic at a local park. Getting kids together for a picnic at the park can be a fun group activity. Just make sure to find some shade!
5. Pavement chalk murals. Get some fun coloured chalk for your kids and you can create some really fun chalk murals and designs. [Here](#) are a few cool designs for inspiration.
6. Garden camping. Your kids may be too small to go camping at a campsite or park, but why not start in the backyard?
7. Garden stargazing. Put out a few blankets and lie down in your garden, and gaze upon the stars. Show your kids how to locate Orion's Belt and many other stars. Here's a great stargazing [guide](#).
8. Check out the local county fair. Most towns will have some sort of carnival or county fair which will definitely delight your kids.
9. Kids' science experiments. If your kids want to stay indoors, no problem – increase their brain power and curiosity with [these](#) awesome fun and easy science experiments for kids!
10. Local tennis camp. You may be able to find a fun kids tennis camp that your kid can enjoy.
11. 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! If they are the crafty type, here is a fun [guide](#) to show you how to make one!
12. Pavement foam paint. There are other creative ways to write on your pavement! You and your kids can make some perfectly harmless foam paint. Click [here](#) for a creative and fun DIY foam activity to have some fun with your kids.
13. Water balloon baseball. Sometimes, combining two summer activities can make for an exciting way to play outside. Just take a racket and fill up some water balloons. Now, you can play cricket with a splash!
14. DIY bird feeder. Take toilet paper rolls and spread with peanut butter then roll in bird seed. After hanging it on a branch, your kids can watch as the birds come get something to eat!
15. Homemade Playdough. This can be done in less than 10 minutes and is very easy to make. Check out [this](#) recipe from a fellow mother on how to make colourful playdough with your kiddos.
16. 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!
17. 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!
18. 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!
19. 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.

20. 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.
21. 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!
22. 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!
23. Paint rocks. Have fun painting faces or designs on rocks with your kids. You could use these as door stoppers or paper weights!
24. Balloon tennis. Using paper plates, paint stirrers, and 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!
25. Homemade water blob. Using plastic sheeting and duct tape, you can create your very own water blob! [This](#) mom warns that there will be leaking, but that it only adds to the fun and gives it more of a splash!
26. Squirt gun water painting. With paper, watercolours, 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!
27. Glow in the dark mason jar. With this [how-to](#), you can make believe with this glow in the dark jar! You can capture fairies or even use it as a night light. The results are radiant!
28. 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!
29. DIY sponge balls. This is a fantastic homemade game or yard toss. Buy some fun looking sponges or use what you've got! Drench them in water and soap and get ready to be soaked in the hot summer fun!
30. 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.
31. 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!
32. Go to the farmers' market. You don't have to travel far to open up your kids' world. Going to your local farmers' market can be a fun outing as well as a way for showing them all of the different and colourful foods!
33. 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!
34. 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.
35. Feed the ducks. There are places that either have ducks for you to feed (the zoo) or a local pond or river.
36. 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.

37. 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!
38. 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.
39. 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!
40. 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!
41. 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 pyjama walk right before bed. Either way, you kids will be relaxed on this awesome summer activity!
42. 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.
43. 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 noodle or tube. Swimming is the ultimate kids' summer activity.
44. 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 theatre!
45. Blow bubbles. Whether it's with a bubble machine 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!
46. 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!
47. Glow in the dark bowling. How do you make bowling extra fun with your kids? You make it glow in the dark. Glow sticks are the secret ingredient! [Here](#) is a brief tutorial on how to spice up your bowling experience.
48. Colour 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 colours in each. Each glass should have a white flower inside. Slowly, they will begin to change!
49. Craft with pipe cleaners. By simply taking different colour 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.
50. 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. It can be an amusing memory to look back on one day.