

# Summer Fun 101

## Together Time

1. Have a no-technology car, bus, train, or plane ride! No cell phone, no tablet, no videos, no nothing! Play Eye Spy, the Alphabet Game, 20 Questions, or just talk.
2. Go out on a date with one of your kids.
3. If one of your kids is involved in an activity, take the whole family to watch and cheer them on!
4. Get together with another family with kids and hang out.
5. Take an older kid out for coffee.
6. Take a road trip with one of your kids. (As long or short as you like—no pressure!)
7. Talk about how the local government works and visit a mayor, senator, governor, courthouse, town hall, or other local government agency.
8. Have a video game tournament with a prize for the winner.
9. Have a themed dinner. Try an international cuisine, tiny foods, finger foods, or sticky foods as themes!
10. Prank your own house in the middle of the night. TP, fork the lawn, chalk the sidewalk, whatever you don't mind cleaning up!
11. Choose a theme song for each family member.
12. Don't wait for winter! Pretend it's cold, drink hot cocoa, make "snow" ice cream with crushed ice, and wear your mittens!
13. Have a fun-in-the-sun-day! Put on your swimsuits, make a slip-and-slide out of garbage bags and baby shampoo, and go swimming if you have a pool nearby.
14. Buy everyone who will play a can (or cans!) of silly string and have a silly string fight.
15. Give each of your kids a small amount of money and go to a yard sale to see what treasures you can find.
16. Have a special story time and let your older kids read to your younger kids.
17. Use online videos to have a karaoke night!

- 18. Go on a playground crawl. Map out a few parks near your home. Play for 10-15 minutes at each one.
- 19. Get out some art supplies (crayons and paper suffice!) and make art together.
- 20. Go on a vacation or a stay-cation. Give it an epic title before you go to build anticipation.
- 21. Have a movie marathon. Stay up late and watch everyone's favorite movie. Don't forget the popcorn!
- 22. Camp in the living room. If you have a tent, put it up inside!
- 23. Have a "dessert first" dinner.
- 24. Drag mattresses to the living room and have a family slumber party.
- 25. If someone has a summer birthday, let them be the king or queen of the day. A crown and scepter aren't required, but they definitely make it better!
- 26. Plan a time to meet up with grandparents in person or through video.
- 27. Write thank-you cards to people who serve in the military.
- 28. Go to the grocery store and let each of your kids pick one fruit or vegetable. Let them research how to prepare it and help you cook it for dinner or dessert.
- 29. Let one of your kids shadow you at work.
- 30. Go to a local concert, play, or other free community event.
- 31. Give your kids (and you) a day off! Surprise them by taking off of work so they don't have to go to daycare, and spend the whole day together.
- 32. Watch some dance instructional videos together online or have a freestyle dance night.
- 33. Map out a route for a family walk and then follow it.
- 34. Eat a meal together, at a table, technology-free. Place all phones in a basket and move the basket away from your sight.
- 35. Go to different drive-thru windows for each course of your meal: appetizer, drinks, main course, sides, and dessert!
- 36. Create a social media group for everyone in your family. Share favorite memories.
- 37. Play socks off: Everyone sits in a circle with their feet in the middle and tries to get each others' socks off without using their hands. The winner is the last one with a sock on.

- 38. Have a clean-up contest for your young kids. Assign each a room. Whichever room looks cleanest after 15 minutes of cleaning is the winning room.
- 39. Go to a free weekend workshop at a local hardware store.
- 40. Use anything and everything in your house to create an epic tent.
- 41. Have breakfast for dinner.
- 42. Make a list of funny memories.
- 43. If you happen to be near the place you grew up, go on a family history tour. Show your kids your old schools, church, house, grocery store, park, favorite hangout places, etc.
- 44. Go outside and look at the stars together.
- 45. Create a family newsletter or blog.
- 46. Make memes out of family photos.
- 47. Make up a holiday that's just for your family.
- 48. Put a puzzle together as a family.
- 49. Take a family picture.
- 50. Show your kids pictures and videos from when they were babies.
- 51. Have a joke-off. Everyone in your family takes turns telling jokes and tries not to laugh. The last person left who hasn't laughed is the winner.
- 52. Plant some seeds in cups in your house and watch them grow into seedlings.
- 53. Look up simple directions online, and cut squares out of scrap paper to do origami together!
- 54. Decorate cookies or a cake together.
- 55. Have a thumb wrestling tournament.
- 56. Build a "mouse house" outdoors using only natural materials.
- 57. Have a blindfolded taste test of foods already in your refrigerator.
- 58. Make popsicles in an ice tray.

# Family Values

59. Write a set of family core values. Here's an article to help you if you need tips.  
<http://go2.lc/FamilyCoreValues>
60. Build a campfire (or heat up the oven!), to make s'mores, and talk about one way each of your kids demonstrates one of your family values well.
61. Each member of your family draws a name out of a hat. They write a letter or draw a picture about one family value that person demonstrates well.
62. Post something your kid is proud of and what family value the achievement shows on social media. If people leave positive comments, read them to your kid. (Ask your kid for permission, first!)
63. Reinforce values of care and listening with the High/Low game. Each family member shares one high point of their day or week and one low point of their day or week.
64. Leave an encouraging note for your kid somewhere they will find it. Point out one way you saw them stand up for your family's values.
65. Find a mentor for each of your kids.
66. Create a family mission statement together.
67. Play the "Small Stuff" game. Pick a time period during which you celebrate every good thing your family members do, no matter how small.
68. Have one person make all the beds, one person put away everyone's laundry, one person clear everyone's dishes from the table—do anything that turns a regular chore into a chance to serve.
69. Ask your kids what they think marriage is all about. If you're married, look at your wedding pictures together. Talk about marriage as a life-long commitment before God and let your kids ask hard questions about divorce, relationships that don't wind up in marriage, and parenting without a spouse.
70. Stand up for people who need a friend. Check with a children's hospital, children's shelter, or a nursing home to see if you can visit someone who doesn't have many visitors.
71. Demonstrate healthy love to your kids. If you're married, do something loving for your spouse in front of your kids. If you're not, do the same thing for a close friend or family member.
72. Dating lesson! Go on a family date and talk about how to act respectfully on a date and how to tell if someone is treating them respectfully, too.
73. Plan a family business for the day. Sell lemonade, cookies, or have a yard sale. Take the money and honor God with it together through tithes, offerings, and wise spending.

- 74. Make a savings jar to keep loose change in. Decide as a family the best way to honor God with the money.
- 75. Help your teenager or older child create a budget. Make ways for them to earn cash or fake money that they can use to pay you for the household expenses on their budget.
- 76. Have your kids write out what they want in a future spouse. This is pretty good for laughs when your kids are young! If they're dating, take it more seriously.
- 77. Talk with your kids on an age-appropriate level about sex. Let them ask questions and share what they've heard from their friends.
- 78. Talk about gender. Let your kids ask questions about what it means to be a boy or a girl. Pray for God's wisdom and be honest if you don't know the answers.
- 79. Create a family crest. Draw things that show what your family stands for. Write your family's mission statement on it.
- 80. Everyone in your family writes down or dictates three moral or spiritual values that are really, really important to them. Pick Bible verses to go along with each one.
- 81. Have a card shower for a family member. Pick an extended family member, have everyone write a card to them, and mail them or drop them off at their house.
- 82. Have everyone choose several possessions to give away or donate.

## ***First Things First***

- 83. Create Bible verse cards. Check out these playlists for Bible verses for kids on the LC LifeKids channel:
  - Bible Adventure Memory Verses**
  - Konnect HQ Memory Verses**
- 84. Read a YouVersion Bible Plan together. Find family-friendly ones here:
  - <http://go2.lc/FamilyBiblePlans>
  - <http://go2.lc/EarlyChildhoodBiblePlans>
  - <http://go2.lc/KonnectBiblePlans>
  - <http://go2.lc/YouthBiblePlans>
- 85. Talk about a time God came through with an answer to one of your prayers. Ask your kids to share any answered prayers they've had.

- 86. Pray for your kids' future spouses.
- 87. Take a free Meyers Briggs or Spiritual Gifts test online with your older kid to help them discover more about how God wired them.
- 88. Pick a Bible verse for each of your kids. Pray it over them, make a card with it on it, and give it to them.
- 89. Do a heart check with your kids. Are they hurt? Jealous? Angry? Happy? Pray with them about how they're feeling.
- 90. Pray together as a family in the morning. Don't worry. It doesn't have to be long to honor God.
- 91. Get involved in a biblical small group for families with kids.
- 92. Establish a bedtime routine that includes Bible time and prayer.
- 93. Ask your kids if they have questions about God or their faith. Teach them it's okay to have doubts and questions. Pray for God's wisdom and be honest if you don't know the answers.
- 94. Share your story of when you began to follow Jesus. If your kids have chosen to follow Jesus, let them share their stories, too. Celebrate the new life you have in Jesus!
- 95. Write out character qualities you want to see God develop in your kids. Pray for each one.
- 96. Have a jar or box in your house where your kids can put their questions about God. Set a time each week or day where you pull out a question and talk about it.
- 97. Make a "God Box" for your family. When you're facing something stressful, write it down, pray over it, and put it in the box to show you are trusting God with it.
- 98. Have a Bible streak competition. See who can keep their daily streak going the longest in the YouVersion Bible App.
- 99. Make a top-10 list of things your family is thankful for. Post it on social media.
- 100. Learn some words in a different language. Look up which countries speak that language and pray for the people who live there.
- 101. Go on a walk and look for nature items. Pick them up, draw them, or photograph them. Let your kids share what nature reminds them about God.