

# Keeping the kids entertained

**With schools and attractions closed, you might be looking for some fun things to do to keep your kids entertained. Being stuck at home does not have to be boring! Here are ten ideas of things to do at home:**

**“Go” to the zoo.** While going to an actual zoo is currently not possible, many zoos around the world keep posting pictures and videos of their animals on social media. Have you, for example, seen the footage from Shedd Aquarium in Chicago that shows their penguins roam around the premises and meet the other animals?

**Turn your living room into a theatre.** Help your kids put on a play or variety show – you can hunt for props and costumes around the house. Video-call other family members and let them be the audience; it will put a smile on their faces!

**Host an art exhibition.** If your child loves to be creative, encourage them to work on different arts and crafts projects over a certain period of time (e.g. a week). Collect the artwork and put together a little exhibition at the end.

**Turn your home into a gym.** Don't worry you don't need to invest in expensive gym equipment to help your kids burn off some energy. Many everyday objects such as sofa cushions or toys can be turned into obstacles or used for balancing challenges. Don't forget the old classic, either – THE FLOOR IS LAVA!

**Bake together.** Easter is just around the corner so how about some Easter biscuits or carrot cake? Baking is a great way to be creative and learn about measuring ingredients and different foods.

**Enjoy an indoor picnic.** Have an indoor picnic, complete with blanket and crockery. You need not worry about the weather, dirt, ants, bees or wasps. Invite some teddy bears and sing or play the “Teddy Bears Picnic” song too!

**Encourage some construction work.** Get out the LEGO, trainsets and jigsaws puzzles. Use blankets and furniture to build a den or turn old cardboard boxes into a fortress – the possibilities are endless!

**Plan a family movie night.** Have a family movie night and watch a film you'll all enjoy. Turn down the lights and don't forget the popcorn!

**Go outside.** Weather permitting! Let your kids play in the garden - the fresh air and exercise will do them good. Let them plant some seeds and bulbs or prepare a little Treasure or Easter Egg Hunt for them.

**Keep them curious.** From science experiments to learning another language, there are a whole host of activity sheets, projects, flashcards, videos, podcasts and other resources to be discovered online. Setting up a designated learning area will help your child to focus better.

**Don't forget about quiet time!** *Implement a daily quiet time to give both you and your kids a break - nobody is expecting you to entertain your kids all day long. Planning and adhering to a daily schedule of activities including breaks will help things to run smoothly.*