100+ THINGS TO DO WITH YOUR LITTLE!*

- 1. Play JENGA traditional, or BBBS style (write a fun get-to-know-you question on each block and answer them as you take turns playing)
- 2. Bowl For Kids' Sake together, last weekend in February!
- 3. Start a hobby together (e.g., astronomy, clowning, sewing, music, singing, drama, dance, stained glass, painting, poetry...).
- 4. Start a collection of something you are both interested in like stamps, rocks, coins, comics, bugs, dolls, figures, sports cards, etc.
- 5. Walk, train, and play with your pet together.
- 6. Pop popcorn (the "old fashioned" way, not in the microwave) and watch a movie.
- 7. Go to Terry Trueblood Recreation Area and take out a kayak or paddle-boat for a spin on the lake.
- 8. Build a model car, plane, or rocket.
- 9. Visit Petland or the local animal shelter.
- 10. Form your own book club (just you two, or with other matches) and/or read together.
- 11. Go to a circus or carnival.
- 12. Draw, paint, work with clay, or make paper-mache animals or casts of each other.
- 13. Play Charades, checkers, chess, backgammon, or any board or card game; you can even have fun creating your own!
- 14. Research your family trees together the library and Internet are great resources!
- 15. Attend your Little's school play, concert or sporting event to cheer him/her on!
- 16. Tour an area firehouse or police station.
- 17. Feed birds or go to a park and feed the ducks.
- 18. Go roller-skating for free at Robert A. Lee Rec Center; need a Facility Pass (free)
- 19. Go Ice skating
- 20. Have a TV show you both watch every week, then call and talk about it.
- 21. Do a science project together using household products (find out what happens to an egg soaked in vinegar).
- 22. Take a free kid-friendly class at your local Home Depot or Toys 'R Us.
- 23. Bounce on a trampoline.
- 24. See one of our local sports teams or college teams in action ask your Mentoring Specialist about tickets!
- 25. Rock climb, swim, or play basketball or workout at the UI Recreation & Wellness Center. Purchase passes for \$3 from us.
- 26. Take a walk and bring a memento bag to collect interesting objects along the way...
- 27. Prepare a meal together from start to finish try finding good recipes online or in your favorite cookbook. (YUMMY!)
- 28. Help your Little with homework or a school project.
- 29. Write a letter to your Little on your match anniversary telling what you've noticed about him/her in the last year. Ex: positive changes, growth or maturity.
- 30. Watch a fireworks show.
- 31. Go horseback riding.
- 32. Take your Little to your place of employment (if appropriate)
- 33. Make your own cards for holidays, birthdays, and other special occasions for friends and relatives.

- 34. Trim the hedges, mow the lawn, rake the leaves, and do other yard work together; perhaps for an elderly or busy neighbor.
- 35. Build a bird house or feeder.
- 36. Go bowling at or play putt-putt golf!
- 37. Visit a park you've never been to, or a familiar favorite.
- 38. Watch a parade.
- 39. Check into local history/archeology.
- 40. Fly a kite at the park for an extra challenge, make your own kites!
- 41. Write and send letters in the mail to each other, or get pen pals.
- 42. Share family/vacation pictures with each other.
- 43. Create a Match scrapbook or photo album to record all your fun times together.
- 44. Start a garden indoors or out.
- 45. Carve a pumpkin together don't forget to roast the seeds!
- 46. Make a log cabin, picture frame, or anything you can think of out of popsicle sticks.
- 47. Pick apples and/or ride the tractor (free on Family Nights) at Wilson's Apple Orchard (open seasonally)
- 48. Try new restaurants together. Write reviews and submit then on websites like Yelp, or to the school paper. (Half-price gift cards often available at littlevillage.com/perks)
- 49. Go to the movies, or rent one for free from the library.
- 50. Teach him/her how to change the oil in your car, or any handy skills you may have.
- 51. Complete a jigsaw puzzle.
- 52. Volunteer at a community center/soup kitchen/humane society.
- 53. Take a bike ride together (there are several trails in the area www.trailnet.org). Remember your helmets!
- 54. Make up new lyrics to a song maybe even about your match. Definitely share with your Mentoring Specialist. ©
- 55. Go to an auto show, boat show, or truck pull.
- 56. Make your own T-shirts with fabric markers and colored glue or tie dye.
- 57. Enjoy cloud watching on a nice day.
- 58. Go swimming or even play with the water hose or sprinkler in the backyard.
- 59. Volunteer with a United Way sponsored agency (check first about age restrictions).
- 60. Keep a journal of all your outings together and what you liked/disliked about each.
- 61. Make friendship bracelets, or do other crafts together.
- 62. Play frisbee, catch, basketball, volleyball, touch football, croquet, badminton, etc.
- 63. Make paper airplanes and gliders, paper football, and/or paper fortune tellers.
- 64. Go holiday caroling.
- 65. Go apple picking and try different apple recipes with your apples.
- 66. Visit a local museum there are plenty to choose from!
- 67. Write a newsletter together to send to your friends and relatives.
- 68. Play games on the internet or peruse your favorite age-appropriate sites together.
- 69. Play golf, or just hit golf balls at a driving range.
- 70. Wrap gifts using old magazines and newspaper.
- 71. Show him/her how to maintain their bike—replace chain, repair brakes, etc.
- 72. Make an obstacle course in your yard or local park and time each other.
- 73. Make puppets.
- 74. Play video games/pinball.
- 75. Use sidewalk chalk and draw pictures on the sidewalk.



- 76. Let your Little drive...at a go-cart track!
- 77. Look through coupon books for 2 for 1 deals for your favorite activities.
- 78. Let your Little do chores and run errands with you.
- 79. Call your Mentoring Specialist and let them know about the activities you have tried, and/or leave a funny voicemail together.
- 80. Go on sound scavenger hunt with a tape recorder.
- 81. Bake a cake, cookies, or brownies or make candy share with others!
- 82. Have a picnic.
- 83. Make a collage on "friendship" or your Little's life using pictures and headlines from old magazines and newspapers.
- 84. Geocaching.
- 85. Call the local animal shelter about helping or touring (age restrictions may apply)...
- 86. Look up new words in the dictionary. Try to keep a straight face using them in conversation with others.
- 87. Music swap and/or listen to music together.
- 88. Ask them to teach you something.
- 89. Plan for a money earning project and/or save money for
- 90. Blow bubbles.
- 91. If your Little is a teenager, practice completing job and college applications, or scholarship applications.
- 92. Show your Little your high school yearbook, baby pictures, old report cards, etc.
- 93. Build a snowman/woman.
- 94. Go on a camera scavenger hunt Make a list of the things you want pictures of before you go and let your Little take the pictures.
- 95. Peruse Pinterest.com together for endless rabbit holes of craft/activity inspiration
- 96. Attend a Kirkwood Eagles sporting event in Cedar Rapids! Tickets to men's and women's basketball games are \$5, and free for youth 10 and under.
- 97. Spend some time with your Mentoring Specialist! We love getting out of the office and hanging out with matches!
- 98. Go to local art fairs, festivals, and events (check the "GO" section of the Press-Citizen every Thursday).
- 99. Attend a BBBS Match Activity Calendar of Events on www.bbbsjc.org/events
- 100. Children's Museum, Coral Ridge Mall, Coralville
 - <u>http://www.theicm.org/</u> (free admittance when you're together, get passes beforehand from BBBS)
- Visit the <u>Herbert Hoover Presidential Library & Museum</u> in West Branch (\$10 for people 16 and older, \$3 for ages 6-15): https://hoover.archives.gov/visiting/index2.html
- 102. Explore the Johnson County Historical Society http://www.jchsiowa.org/

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- 103. Friday Night Concert Series, Saturday Night Outdoor Movies, or other Summer of the Arts fun... check out: www.summeroftheARTS.org)
- 104. Iowa City/Coralville Area Convention and Visitor Bureau Events like Festivals, Sports, Farmers' Markets www.THINKIOWACITY.com
- 105. Take a Kid Outside Iowa (events like Seize the Carp, Moon Walk and Star Party, Pumpkin Party, etc.) https://www.facebook.com/TAKOlowa/
- 106. See what's happening in Iowa City Press-Citizen Events http://events.press-citizen.com/
- 107. Explore North Liberty Events http://northlibertyiowa.org/city-services/recreation-department/events-calendar/

*Pro Tip: Take pictures of your fun and share with the Little's parent(s)/guardian(s) to strengthen family relationships + provide great memories! Text or e-mail them to your Mentoring Specialist; we love to see, too.

But remember! You are only allowed to share pictures of your Little on social media if they and their parent/guardian have both approved!