

## 10 Fun Activities to do with Your Young Child

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What to have some fun with your young child this weekend? Here are some fun and educational activities that you can do together. Enjoy!

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Play "Word Rhyme" with your child. Take turns thinking of silly words and saying as many words that rhyme as you can (e.g., fly, by, my, pie, why, sky, shy).

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Play "Pat-a-Cake" with your child.

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### Rhyme 'N Play

Follow the motions with your child.

Open, shut them,  
Open, shut them,  
Give a little clap!  
Open, shut them,  
Open, shut them,  
Lay them on your lap.

Have your child stand in a safe place. Ask him or her to open and close their eyes, then mouth, then hands.

Have your child show you how he or she can open and close arms. Now repeat the rhyme.

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Play "Search and Match" With your child. Collect as many pairs of shoes as you can find in your house. Mix them up and place them in a pile. Let your child match up the shoes in pairs.

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Make Handprint art work with your child.

Find some dark construction paper. Take some sidewalk chalk. Let your child play with it until their hands are covered. Or you can run their hands with the chalk, or make a pile of chalk dust and have them put the palms of their hands in it.

Then carefully place their palms on a clean sheet of the paper. Label and hang up on the refrigerator. Or frame and give to a relative or friend as a present!

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Make up hand movements to go with the words. Let your child follow along.

*Twinkle, twinkle, little star,  
How I wonder what you are  
Up above the world so high,  
Like a diamond in the sky.  
Twinkle, twinkle, little star,  
How I wonder what you are*

*Star light, star bright.  
First star I see tonight.  
I wish I may, I wish I might,  
Have the wish I wish tonight.*

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Have fun reading or telling stories with your child.

A child who looks at books and hears stories read, learns that words and ideas can be written down, and that marks on paper have meaning. Show your child that there are things to read every where. Make a game of finding things with words on them (like soup cans, cereal boxes, and comics). This will help your child to see how important it is to be able to read.

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King or Queen for a day

Materials:

construction paper

glue

glitter

buttons

yarn

old jewelry or any craft items you have.

Measure around the top of your child's head. Cut a piece of paper to fit. Cut the bottom straight and the top in points to look like a crown. Let you child decorate the crown with craft items. Have the child trace or print his or her name on the back of the crown and then attach the ends. Let the child wear the crown for the day. What would he/she do as King/Queen?

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Story Time

Have fun reading or telling stories with your child. The best way for your child to learn to love reading and books is to have a reading experience each day.

Reading can be done anywhere -- in a car, a fast-food restaurant, a bus, an office, in the park, or at home. Keep books or other reading material handy, so it's always an easy activity to choose