

40 Ideas for educational [screen-free](#) time for junior school students

- 1.** Go on a scavenger hunt outside, then draw in detail and investigate what you found.
- 2.** Make a range of paper aeroplanes and change small details each time (such as wing length) and record your findings on which goes furthest. You could decorate your designs.
- 3.** Make your own alphabet and create a secret code. Write messages for family members.
- 4.** Create your own treasure hunt for family members to do. Write your own clues.
- 5.** Create a detailed self-portrait.
- 6.** Create your own weather station and record the weather each day. Present your findings at the end of each week.
- 7.** Design your own fitness routine. Encourage others to join in with you.
- 8.** Learn a new skill. This could be anything such as playing chess, sewing, learning a new instrument etc
- 9.** Create your own book or comic about something you enjoy.
- 10.** Plant a variety of herbs or seeds. Make a list of what they need to grow. Predict how long each one will take to grow. Record your findings.
- 11.** Write and perform a play to your family. You could even ask someone to record it. Reflect on any improvements you could make.
- 12.** Learn a magic/card trick. Write out the steps you need for it. Perform to your family.
- 13.** Write a letter to your friends or someone in the community. Post it. It will make their day!
- 14.** Create your own dance routine. Write out the steps. Perform to your family.
- 15.** Have a go at origami. Challenge yourself to learn new designs. Teach the steps to someone else.
- 16.** Read a book of your choice out loud to someone else. Make sure you use great expression. You might like to challenge yourself to read the text with different emotions, for example, in an excited/happy/surprised way.
- 17.** Design your own obstacle course around your garden/house. Encourage others to participate. Make it into a friendly competition. Record all the results.
- 18.** Research and design your own family tree. Call family members to ask them for information.
- 19.** Design your own dream house/sports centre. Use grid paper. Challenge yourself to do it from a bird's eye view. Look into measurements and angles.
- 20.** Create something out of household materials. Check out what recyclable materials you have.
- 21.** Challenge yourself to do a big jigsaw. You could even time yourself to see how long it takes!
- 22.** Design your own board/card game. Write up the rules. Explain to the players. Encourage family members to play with you.
- 23.** Create music with no traditional instruments just household items. Write and perform your music.

- 24.** Write in your journal each day what you have done. Reflect on it at the end of each week. What was the highlight?
- 25.** Learn a new life skill, for example, how to do a particular chore around the house, or learn how to bake.
- 26.** Choose a recipe from a book. Make a list of ingredients required. Take the correct measurements, and help an adult prepare/cook the meal. How was it?
- 27.** Create a family time capsule.
- 28.** Play an educational board game together as a family. Take on a bigger role in the game, for example, working out the money etc
- 29.** Challenge yourself to build something different with LEGO. Maybe something which flies, floats, rolls etc. What is the tallest structure you can build?
- 30.** Perform basic science experiments at home together. Predict what will happen first.
- 31.** Have a great family discussion about a topic of interest.
- 32.** Classify old clothing and toys and prepare to drop off to a local charity shop.
- 33.** Build a cubby house to withstand the different weather. Make a list of the resources and materials you would need.
- 34.** Design and build your own marble run. Try it out. What changes could you make to improve it? Test how fast it takes. Record your findings.
- 35.** Write your own song/poem and perform it. Challenge yourself to write a song/poem on different topics.
- 36.** Create a collage to display around your home on any topic you choose.
- 37.** Challenge yourself with a STEM challenge. For example, what is the tallest structure you can make with newspapers, what is the strongest bridge you can design with straws etc
- 38.** Plan something fun. This could be a party/holiday. List everything you will need, and how much it will cost. Make invitations to invite people.
- 39.** Create your own word puzzles for someone. Challenge yourself with the words you choose. Maybe you will use crosswords/wordsearches/riddles/anagrams.
- 40.** Code! You do not need a screen to do the basics of coding. Write out directions/instructions on paper. Create your own maze for your favourite toy to navigate. Even better if you have a partner with you to call out directions!