

Train Your Brain

Do a science experiment. Visit sciencebuddies.org for an extensive database of project ideas.

Gumdrop Engineering: Build a stable structure using only gumdrops (or similar) and toothpicks. Check out thehomeschoolscientist.com/gumdrop-structures-engineering-challenge.

Make origami, learn a magic trick, or grow a seed! Instruction books on all these topics are available through the library's e-resource, Hoopla.

Make slime. For safe recipes, visit elmers.com/slime.

Electricity Scavenger Hunt: Look for things around the house that need electricity to work. Can you find at least 2 items that create light? Heat? Motion? Sound?

Engineering Challenge: Build a bridge using basic materials like toothpicks, craft sticks, index cards, etc. How much weight can it hold? What can you do to make it stronger?

Make ice cream in a bag. Substitute your favorite non-dairy milk or creamer for a vegan alternative to the recipe at delish.com/cooking/recipe-ideas/recipes/a54721/ice-cream-in-a-bag-recipe.

Human Robots: Take turns playing robot and programmer with a friend or family member. The programmer will write out a set of instructions for the robot to follow to complete a task. Remember, computers and robots cannot think for themselves—they can only follow the exact instructions they are given. Be precise!

Get Creative

Make a life-size version of you! Lie down on a large sheet of paper and have someone trace around you. Color in the outline, adding a face, clothes, etc.

Make a puppet and put on a show. You could make a simple puppet, like a paper bag puppet, or something more elaborate, like a marionette!

Make a musical instrument. Try rice or beans inside a plastic egg or bottle for a shaker, turn an empty container into a drum, or secure a square of wax paper over a toilet paper tube for a kazoo!

Make a portrait of your favorite book character. Draw, paint, collage—use whatever medium you like!

Draw what you hear: Listen to some music (any kind will do) and draw what you hear. You can use markers, crayons, finger paint, whatever you have on hand.

Make a playlist based on a book. If the book were a movie, what would the soundtrack be?

Make a collage or mosaic with cut paper or found objects.

Draw a map of your neighborhood. Be sure to include your house and any interesting landmarks!

Get Stamping: Ask an adult to help you cut a potato in half and carve a shape into the cut face. Dip your stamp into paint and make your mark on paper! Experiment with other vegetables and fruits to see what shapes they naturally make.

Make a movie, stop motion animation, music video, or vlog.

Writing Prompts

Cut out words from newspaper or magazines to compose a story or poem.

Journal about your day.

Write a letter to a favorite author.

Make up a song. You could write new words for a familiar tune or make something totally unique.

Write a book review. What did you like or not like? Could you relate to any of the characters? Would you recommend it to a friend?

Write your own haiku.

Use five, seven, and then five syllables per line.

Imagine a different ending to a book that you've read.

Write (or fracture) a fairy tale: Create your own fairytale or change something in an original fairytale and make it your own!

Write a thank you note to a community worker.

Socialize (at a Distance)

Videochat with family or friends.

Send a letter to a friend.

Have a conversation entirely in song.

Interview an adult about their favorite music from when they were your age.

Get Moving

Have a dance party! Put on some music and dance!

Do a freeze dance! Find a song that tells you when to dance and when to stop or put on your own music and ask someone to press pause and play to control your movement.

Have a scavenger hunt. Create one for your younger siblings or for your friends or ask a grown up to create one for you!

Play sidewalk games such as hopscotch, hula hoop, or jump rope.

Build a pillow fort, then hunker down inside with a good book!