

## Geometry Related Activity Ideas

- Go on a solid (cylinder, sphere, cube), shape (circle, triangle, hexagon), angle (straight, whole, right, acute, obtuse), or line position (vertical, horizontal, oblique) hunt outside or inside
  - Find how many of one type of \_\_\_\_\_ you or your child can find
  - Just walk around talking and naming different \_\_\_\_\_ you or your child find
  - Create a data collecting sheet of different \_\_\_\_\_ names and tally how many you find
    - Count and find out which is the most common, what is the least common
    - Make a bar graph of your results
- Create a picture using only a certain shape and see what you can create
- Draw shapes or angles in the sand at the beach, chalk, etc
- Go somewhere where you can see shadows. What shapes, angles, or positions of lines can your child create with their body
- In the sand or on paper create pictures using curved/ straight lines
- Make a collage using
  - Different shapes
  - Only one shape
- Have your child pick a line they found (ie. Sidewalk crack, shadow, road lines, etc). Follow the line you found outside- Encourage your child to decide if it's a line, ray, or line segment. Why?
- Start exploring scale by choosing a small part of a picture and magnifying it by drawing just that part but much larger.
- One-minute-find
  - Call out a shape, angle, type of line (straight, curved), etc and give your child one minute to find as many of that item as they can.
- Look at different artworks. Focus on the lines, angles, and shapes the artist used to create their picture and discuss.
- Have fun baking cookies with different geometric shapes! Discuss and explore with your child as you make them, the number of sides that characterize the different regular polygons and their names.

## Science Related Activity Ideas

- Trace the shadow of a plant at different times throughout the day. What do you notice?
- Trace your child's shadow at different times throughout the day, ensuring they stand in the same place. What do you notice?
- If you are at the beach, watch a tide come in and go out. Encourage your child to hypothesize why the ocean does this?
- If you are at the beach, build a sand structure near the water and watch the waves erode it away

- If you are at the beach, Have your child dig straight down at different dry sand parts of the beach. They will eventually meet wet sand, have them hypothesize why? Explore digging down at different distances from the water. Ask them questions about how deep they have to dig to reach wet sand compared to how far they are from water (you have to dig deeper the further you are from the water ).
- If you are at the beach, go for a swim in a pool focus on how easy or difficult it is to float. Then go for a swim in the ocean. Is floating the same, harder, or easier? Hypothesize why.
- Go look at the stars for awhile. Relax and enjoy chatting about whatever is interesting to your child
  - Try to find certain constellations in the sky
- Pick different leaves from plants. Tie a piece of string to them and run allowing them to fly behind the person.
  - Is there a certain shape of leaf that flies better than others? Is there a certain shape of leaf that is the worst at flying? Hypothesize why?
- Fold different kinds of paper airplanes. Test them and see which flies the furthest. Which flies the shortest. Keep tweaking your design to make the best flying plane or the worst flying plane.
  - If you have a tape measure, you could mark and measure how far the plane flew
- Look for animals tracks, sketch the track and see if you can figure out what animal made the track
- Make leaf rubbings of different leaves, what differences do you notice
- Sketch some marine animals you see and research them online to label the parts, learn about what they eat, etc
- Look into computer coding. There are many child friendly sources geared to help your child learn how to code. Check out this article to figure out what might be the best choice for your child <https://www.codecamp.com.au/blog/20-best-programming-languages-kids>
- <https://www.plt.org/activities-for-families/>
- Go outside and do some nature journaling
- Boil some purple cabbage and make pH indicator
  - Allow your child to explore different liquids in your house to find out if they are acids, bases, or neutral

## Math Related Activity Ideas

- Have your child write a word problem and then see if you can solve it.
- Have your child create a survey about anything (i.e. favorite ice cream flavors, scariest animal, favorite pet, etc). Have your child work on their communication skills as they gather results for their survey among groups of people. When finished help your child count the votes and then discuss the results.
- Cook/ bake with your child. Help them understand measurement more
- Let your child put different things on a scale and figure out the weight of it.

- If you have a thermometer, allow them to place, read, and compare the temperatures taken in different places .
- Look at real estate ads and practice reading large numbers correctly
- Make a list of common items you buy in a store. Go to a store and write the prices of the item next to each item. Compare the prices of the same items in different places
  - Different store in the same town
  - A store in a different town
  - A store in a different country
- Look at different currencies
  - Create a venn diagram comparing different currencies
  - Discuss the differences you and your child notice
- Let your child become the “bank.” Put them in charge of getting the money together that is required to pay for dinner, the store trip, etc. Let them pay and take the change. This will help them with math by calculating the right amount of bills to give, but also will help them build their confidence in speaking to other adults.
- Play board games that include money, make your child “the bank” (i.e. Monopoly, Life, etc)
- Practice reading clocks whether it is digital or analog.
- Measure things
- Trace and measure your shadow at different times of the day.
  - What was the longest length?
  - What was the shortest length?
- Make paper airplanes and measure how far you were able to get them to fly.
- Give your child a tub of water and some measuring cups/spoons. Encourage them to figure out how many  $\frac{1}{4}$  cups in a cup, how many tablespoons in a  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup, how many teaspoons in a tablespoon, etc.
- Work on their +, -, and x facts
- Play Uno math fact war (Can play using addition or multiplication)  
<https://childhood101.com/maths-games-multiplication-war/>
- Find the area of a window in your house, a door, a room, etc
- Play cards with your children: gin rummy, steal the pile, scopa, briscola, canasta ... not only will this allow them to train in the calculations in mind, but it will help them to be more confident in their relationship with others, to deal with the rules and with the fact that sometimes you win, but sometimes you lose ... and this can happen with serenity!

## Language Related Activity Ideas

- Encourage your child to write a story
- Read books
- Read a book to your child
- Discuss different characters in books
- Show your child a picture or a piece of art and have them write a sentence about it.

- Have an Adjective runway show. Have some family fun by creating a runway in your house. Then everyone dresses up in different ways whether it be serious or funny. Then model... One at a time, each family member will walk down the aisle, doing fun moves, twirling, posing, etc (put on some music for some extra fun). While the person is walking down the aisle everyone else thinks of and shares out different adjectives to describe the family members outfit.
- Brainstorm a bunch of verbs together, write them down and cut them out. Take turns picking a verb and acting it out while the other person guesses the verb.
- Encourage your child to start a journal and write about their day
- Flip to a random page in a dictionary and look for a new word that no one knows and learn it. See how many times you can use that word throughout the day.
- See if you can find an object that doesn't have a name. Everything you can find has a name and is a noun, but there are many items that children don't know the name of yet.. Research any items that you are not sure of the name to with your child.
- Research something and write about it. Encourage your child not to copy word for word what they're reading about. (\*One way to help is to read them a couple of sentences and then ask them what they remember, help them write what they said. Those are their words, not the authors where they are getting information from. This helps them gain confidence not to plagiarize in the future) (\*If your child is older you can ask them to create a key word outline for their research)
- Tell oral stories
- Have your child create a survey and allow them to go around and ask different people their question.
- Encourage your child to write a story. Here are a couple of games that can stimulate the imagination and help the narration: <https://www.erickson.it/it/le-mille-e-una-storia>  
<https://www.libellud.com/dixit-2/>

Here is an article that explains the usefulness of Dixit and how it was born:

<https://www.ilfattoquotidiano.it/2016/03/06/dixit-lidea-di-uno-psichiatra-per-ridare-significato-allimmaginazione-giocando/2523421/>

- Create a collaborative story by playing with friends and family. Each person will contribute to the construction of the story with a sentence that is easy to follow. The first narrator will have to begin the story with an initial sentence, long or short. Then you will take turns and each person will have to add details. This activity can also be done by car, during a trip!
- Play with the family on "What word is it?" Someone thinks of a word that is four to six letters long. Another person closes their eyes and extends their hand with the palm facing up. Using the tip of the index finger, the person who thought of the word begins to write it slowly, letter by letter, on the hand of the other person who will have to try to guess what the word is.
- Come up with a story together following this rule: each person contributes to the narrative by adding only five words at a time. For example, one person starts by saying

"Once there was a bunny" and the other person could add "lost in a trash bin". And so on. You can also decide to change the rules and add more or less words.

- If you find yourself in a crowded place or full of lots of things, you could hunt for words that begin with all the letters of the alphabet. For example, everyone starts looking for something that begins with A, the first one who finds it can say it and then goes to the letter B.
- Encourage your child to start a diary where they can write how they feel and / or what they do during their days. It doesn't matter how much they write. They can enrich each page with drawings or scribbles (Remember that the diary is something intimate and personal, do not force your children to show it to you).
- Tell oral stories, without reading them. They could be legends, or tales of your invention.
- Encourage your child to go around and interview people trying to find out what is the longest word people know.

## Geography Related Activity Ideas

- I normally am never a fan of video games, but google just released via google earth a Where on Google Earth is Carmen Sandiego game and it is a fun way to be exposed, research, and learn about world geography all while trying to catch Carmen. (seems to only have 1 puzzle currently)  
[https://earth.google.com/static/9.2.80.4/app\\_min.html?utm\\_source=referral&utm\\_campaign=tactilepromo&utm\\_term=carmen1#data=CiQSIhlgYmU3N2ZmYzU0MTc1MTFIOGFI OGZkMzdkYTU5MmE0MmE](https://earth.google.com/static/9.2.80.4/app_min.html?utm_source=referral&utm_campaign=tactilepromo&utm_term=carmen1#data=CiQSIhlgYmU3N2ZmYzU0MTc1MTFIOGFI OGZkMzdkYTU5MmE0MmE)  
Link per il gioco in italiano:  
<https://earth.google.com/web/@0,0,127.64467842a,30000000d,35y,0h,0t,0r/data=CjoS OBIgYmU3N2ZmYzU0MTc1MTFIOGFI OGZkMzdkYTU5MmE0MmEiFGIudC14LXgteC1j YXNILWludHJv>
- When you go on a trip, get maps of the places you visit. A road atlas can also be an extremely useful tool to explore possible routes with your child and understand together with him / her the best way to reach a monument or the best roads to take to get to a rifugio.
- While exploring a city, walking along a mountain path or along the beach, try to understand together with your child where the north, south, east and west are located relative to your position. Having a compass with you will help you, and will expose your child to this fundamental tool.
- Each week you could choose with your child a different place on our planet, and find out together what the time difference is between where you are and where you have chosen. Why?

## History Related Activity Ideas

- Discuss any holiday. Research the story behind the holiday together

- Watch and follow a calendar. Discuss what month, day of the week, and number date it is
- Tell your child stories about your past. Encourage them to tell stories of things they remember as well. History was originally remembered through oral stories, writing is much more recent.
- Go and visit a museum
- Look up and read legends for the area we live in as well as places you visit

## Practical Life Related Activities

- Help your child learn how to do laundry
- If you need to book an appointment for something allow your child to make the call. Talk about and practice what your child will need to say/ask. Discuss the possible responses they will hear as well.
- Let your child be part of planning a vacation
  - Picking a place to go
  - Researching the area and finding interesting things to do
  - Allowing them to make reservations for places to stay or things to do
  - Allowing them to book the bus, train, or plane tickets
  - Have the child research and come up with how much a trip will cost
  - Allow them to map out the route you are going to drive
- Helping your child learn how to pack their own things for a trip
- Let your child pick a recipe they want to try and make a shopping list for it.
- Let them do the shopping at the store
- Let your child plan a garden, researching the climate we live in
  - figure out when the best time to start seeds inside are
  - When should the plants be planted outside
  - Looking at what types of soil plants should have
  - What are the best plants to plant next each other