

THE FUNTASTIC GUIDE



100

activities to spend
quality time
with your children



Strategic
Parenting

Introduction

I am Marko Juhant, an author, lecturer and special pedagogue. Due to my work, I have been playing with children for more than 40 years. And playing has a very special place in my mission.

For years, I have been arguing that play is not only a game but also a powerful tool for raising children and for their development. Through play, they get to know themselves, their interests and develop essential social, cognitive and physical skills.



At the same time, they can also discover their mastery, which will give them motivation, self-confidence, security in life. And such versatile skill development is INVALUABLE.

Nevertheless, I hear too often: “I would play, but - work, obligations, driving to extracurricular activities, learning, homework, household chores ... And we simply always run out of time to play!”

So let me first tell you something about this “lack of time”. There is always exactly as much time as you make it. No more and no less. And often we spend a lot of it on social media, watching TV, listening to reports, even on extracurricular activities ... Often too much time escapes us without us knowing when and where, don't you agree?

But playing is always an investment. An investment in a child, in your relationship with the child and last but not least - an investment in you. Because it calms you down as well, and it relaxes you after having been racing all day from one commitment to another.

But I am also aware that it is difficult for many parents to get ideas every day about what to do with their child and how to play with them, especially in a useful, instructive way. As a result, we see more and more children with smartphones and tablets in their hands, immersed in screens and in unconstructive entertainment that makes them dumb. And every time you put your child in front of a screen, you miss the opportunity for their development and personal growth. Unless you sit next to them while they're playing and ask them with interest, “What game do you play with the boys? Are you good at it? Are your friends any good?” Because by doing that, you talk to each other, socialize, build a relationship. And they will love it! Because then they will be "smarter" and the main man, and not their "old man," as is usually the case.

And I am aware of another thing - that not every parent is a pedagogue, and not everyone has been practicing playfulness all their life, as I have. I have thus created this guide with 100 ideas for activities with children. No worries, I have covered everything: sunny, rainy, snowy days, hot and cold weather, outdoor activities and home activities.

So, with this book or guide, the days of worries about what to do and how to spend quality time are over. Whatever activity you choose, I guarantee you fun, laughter and an unforgettable experience.

*** Please be advised that as a matter of policy, the Funtastic Guide is intended only for the use of adults with games suitable for children three (3) years old and above. Some of the games contain the use of small parts which may be considered as choking hazards for children below three (3) years old.

You understand and acknowledge that by purchasing and using the Funtastic Guide, it is the responsibility of the parent/s or legal guardian/s of the child to determine the appropriate and suitable games for their child as well as to fully supervise their actions while playing. StrategicParenting.com disclaims any and all liability arising from the mishandling of tools and games mentioned in Funtastic Guide and wrong usage of the same.

User manual

You can read the guide from start to finish, from finish to start, or you can, when you run out of ideas, simply open it on a random page and choose the activity described there. However, an even better idea is to cut it up: that way, each activity is on a separate sheet, which you then fold, mix and throw into a box. When you get bored, your child can pick one sheet from the box, and together you start a new activity. That is my guide - playful, naughty and versatile.

Do not expect ordinary games you have all heard of, because this activities are not just games. During each one, the child will learn something new, discover something new and develop a new or already acquired skill. I am also positive that parents will also learn something new about their children, the world and play.

Only if you allow yourself to play and create with your child FREELY. Do not give them instructions all the time, correct them and put pressure on them. There should not be a boss. Or both of you should be bosses are both, whatever you prefer.

So, when you begin, you better ask the child, "What should I do?" Because otherwise, their product will not be a unique one but franchised. And that is not my goal. My goal is for kids and parents to find their own products and for parents to connect even more with their children.

Well, let's play!

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SUMMER

and

SUN

1. Emergency Shade

You need: an old sheet or cover for a blanket, a string, a pillow, a blanket or soft beach mat, tent wedges or elastic ropes for securing loads and clothes pegs

Game preparation time: one hour

Instructions: The emergency shade we have made ourselves will always be more loved by the children than a purchased tent. A white or colored sheet on which you have made a so-called driver's knot at the corners and which you then tied to a fence on one side and used two pegs on the other to stretch the roof is a great toy and emergency protection against the hot sun, but not UV rays. Also, observe the sun's path so that the sheet will provide shade for as long as possible.

You can use tent pegs to help you tighten the sheet. Fold pillows or blankets on the floor, in short, anything so that children can play comfortably. If you have small tents for the beach, they protect well, but playing in them is certainly not that much fun.



2. Water Magnifier

You need: rods, boards, plastic tubes or rings, thick polyvinyl at least 3 x 3 ft (1m x 1m), clothes pegs or a stapler

Game preparation time: 45 minutes

Instructions: Sun rays can be collected into a point using a frame over which you stretch the polyvinyl and pour water into it. As the polyvinyl bends, a large lens is formed. However, it must be placed quite high. How? Try to figure it out exactly - that's the amusing part.

Warning (better twice than never) No one should look at the sun through the lens as you can instantly permanently damage your eyes. Which also goes for kids with baby binoculars!

Buy dark glasses for welding masks at a technical store. They are not expensive, and you can observe the sun with children without any problems or dangers. They also protect the eyes from UV rays.

3. Magnifying Lighter

You need: a magnifying glass, a piece of cut glass to keep the child from cutting himself, or glass for welding, a piece of wood, some paper or dry leaves

Game preparation time: immediately

Instructions: Burning with a magnifying glass or glass that concentrates the sun's rays on wood, on fallen plant leaves, or a newspaper is instructive as well as dangerous. This fact makes it ideal for boys, who need to be watched over so as not to make anything foolish. Determine with your child where he can move with a magnifying glass so as not to burn your vacation home, the garden house with tools, furniture or some live flowers on the balcony. He will probably get a little burnt, which is normal, as he has to try to see if it really heats up. It is important not to do this on other people or animals!

Warning: No one should look at the sun through the lens, as you can instantly permanently damage your eyes. Which also goes for kids with baby binoculars!

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4. Bunny Dance

You need: a smaller mirror and if the edges are sharp, also some school duct tape and a nail file

Game preparation time: 0 minutes

Instructions: Lighting with a mirror or “bunny dance” on the wall is fun since, with the reflected light, the child illuminates places where the sun has never yet shone before. Maybe he will illuminate some crack in the ground, between the rocks, on the north side of a stone or tree, next to a house under an overhang or a mouse hole in a field as far as can be seen. And then he conjures up a "bunny" who happily dances on the walls of his sister's room.

Of course, he should not shine into the neighbors' house unless you have agreed that he might call his friends that way. If they are in the room, they will immediately jump to the window! The mirror must not be larger than 1 or 2 in. (3 or 4 cm), like the one from the cosmetic kit, the little one, next to the mascara. It should not be bigger than a child's palm. If the edges are protected, it is safe; if not, polish them with a nail file and cover them with plain school duct tape. The child prepares the mirror himself. It is even better if it is irregular in shape and has multiple edges, but the shape of the bunny on the wall will always be round.

5. Umbrella Water Boiler

You need: an old satellite dish or an umbrella, aluminum foil

Game preparation time: 2 to 3 hours

Instructions: Many people still have an old satellite dish or a at least large umbrella at home, which you can line with household aluminum foil. The smooth, shiny side should be visible, and you already have a mirror that collects rays and works the same as a lens. With it, you can even boil water if a container is in the right place and at the right distance. This is how children learn about the power of the sun.

6. Wet Fun in the Garden

You need: a garden sprayer

Game preparation time: enough for the children to get dressed in swimsuits and for you to turn on the sprayer

Instructions: The garden sprayer is a very popular and convenient device for cooling children. Use tap water, and let children run or walk, pose for and dodge water jets. If it is 28°C (82°F) in the shade, they will not catch a cold, and because the water is cold, they will skillfully dodge it. And when puddles accumulate, they can also splash in them.

In consideration: Save water when there is a danger of drought. Otherwise, do not feel bad if children play with it. If no one consumes it, it flows like a stream into a river. If you spend it, you pay for it, and some of that is tax money, a tiny part of which pays for medicine, educators, librarians... No kidding, I'm being totally serious.



7. Mud Bath

You need: flawless clay or other soil, thicker polyvinyl and water

Game preparation time: half an hour

Instructions: You can prepare a mud bath if you have access to flawless clay or other soils. It's not really a bath, but more of a mud basin into which you have lined thicker polyvinyl. If the mud is sifted or has no sharp particles, cheerfully

add more water and children will be in paradise. An old proverb says that water is more than mud, so not to worry, you will easily clean the children and the toys.

8. Car Wash

You need: a watering hose, a plastic sheet that is almost wholly cut into ribbons, baby hair shampoo because it does not hurt the eyes, washes and smells good, and so in the evening, we can skip showers :)

Game preparation time: 1 hour

Instructions: The watering hose is extremely useful for washing tricycles, bicycles and cars on pedals. Place a fence where water falls like a shower, and a plastic sheet cut into strips at the entrance so that one cannot see well into the room. In front of the wash, the children soap and scrub their vehicle and possibly themselves with water and baby shampoo, and then ride to the other side through the shower. In doing so, they push the strips of plastic with their bodies, they are hit by water from a shower or two, and you have a party. In any case, the driver is "washed" as well.

Be sure to make a huge "CAR WASH" sign, so that your neighbours can visit you. If there is a lot of interest, washing and wetting with a hand canister before rinsing can also be done by "car wash workers."



9. Water Park

You need: at least 33 ft (10 m) long polyvinyl foil, foam, inflatable pillows or cardboard boxes, soapy water, a swimming ring, or a sunbathing mat

Game preparation time: 30 minutes

Instructions: With a long foil for sliding, we can create a lot of fun. Children and adults take a run and slide on their belly or buttocks on wet or even soapy foil. The ground under the foil needs to be cleaned of protruding particles as it will puncture it and the water will drain there, and someone might even get hurt while gliding over. Old blankets or cardboards that we place under are therefore not a bad solution. A little incline helps a lot; even a slight incline takes the passenger down, left or right. Make sure there is enough space, and that there is also something soft at the end, for example, foam, inflatable pillows or cardboard boxes; anything that will cushion shocks or safely catch the most heated ones at too high a speed. Be careful not to use too much soapy water so as not to damage the lawn. You can also slide on a swimming ring or a sunbathing mat - plastic on plastic slides well.



10. Wet Piñata

You need: a large balloon filled with water and a classic piñata filled with candy, a stick or a wooden bat

Game preparation time: 20 minutes

Instructions: A piñata filled with water is an excellent and refreshing surprise for a holiday. The balloon should be hidden behind the decorations so that the water

falls unimpeded when the balloon bursts. Of course, we first show the birthday child a classic piñata (a larger paper bag) filled with candies, then we blindfold him and replace it with the water balloon. While the child is trying to hit the target with a stick or a wooden bat, we help or trick him by pulling the piñata attached to a string here and there. Of course, we make sure that all the children and adults are far enough away, so it does not hurt them.



11. Home Pool

You need: a large, thicker foil or sheet to cover cargo, four tubes for drainage from gutters and as many 90-degree bents, bales of straw, planks, car trailer from which you have removed wheels or bricks

Game preparation time: 20 minutes

Instructions: Anything with raised edges can become a pool for a day. Bales of straw, planks and bricks are very useful, and even a car trailer, the wheels of which you have taken off to make it lower and more stable, four gutter pipes from the gutters, and just as many 90-degree bents can make almost a 7 ft (2 m) square. Throw over a larger polyvinyl, pour water and voilà - a pool for dabbling or a deep rolling puddle is ready. Some of the water can be brought from the house; hot water so that we do not have to wait for the sun to warm it up. Anything above 20°C (68°F) is enough.

You can also buy pools with a diameter of about 10 ft (3 m) for a few tens of dollars. They will last one summer, but the problem quickly arises regarding how to purify the water, the remnants of sunscreen, and wasps and bees, which get used to the fact that there is always water available in the heat. A one-day project, however, does not bring these problems.

If you are the "master of your land," you can dig a hole 7 x 7 ft (2 x 2 m) deep with one shovel, line the edge with the excavated soil where it rises, level the bottom, pour water on polyvinyl, and you have an 8 in. (20 cm) deep pool. Be sure to document the hour of work with children with photos. And do so in stages!



12. Refreshing Trampoline

You need: a trampoline and flower watering tube

Game preparation time: 10 minutes

Instructions: Make a refreshing trampoline by spraying water on the trampoline while the children jump in the mist. Attach the hose to a nearby object so that it does not flicker with the trampoline. Let the water fall over the entire surface. The children will become ecstatic if you do not tell them about the water, and they go jumping dressed - the more of them at the same time, the better. Pour water over them, let it fall on their face; they will get a whole new experience and realize that the feeling is always different if they turn their gaze.



13. Summer Pond

You need: a shovel, black foil, stones, a thin net, aquatic plants and fish

Game preparation time: 3 hours

Instructions: A summer pond is made the same way as a pool. The difference being, that you can also plant some water flowers and greenery, as you can dig the pool by levels. Cover it with black foil, apply a base, sand or earth where you will plant the plants. Foot and a half (0.5 m) at the deepest end should be deep enough. There, the fish will be able to retreat when the water in the shallower parts gets too hot.

Cover the foil along the edges with stones only when all the water has been poured so that the foil settles. Do not be bothered by the wrinkles. If you have larger mobile plants outside, you can make a little more shade with them. A couple of hours of the sun shining on the small pond will suffice.

You can also do all this with your child on the balcony in a larger box, but it should not be too sunny, as the water will be too hot. Pay attention to any predatory cats or birds, in which case install a thin net. Wait five, six hours for the water to warm up, then move the fish to the new home. Feed it in a few hours when it is already familiar with its new home. If you keep it in a small container, it will probably grow quite a bit over the summer, do not forget about that. In three weeks, so much algae and other stuff will grow that it will find enough food for itself, even if you are away for a few days. In the fall, it needs to be moved to a fish tank. For the winter, such a pool is too small.



**SPRING,
AUTUMN
and MILD
WINTER**

14. Sandbox

You need: sand, sieves, a wheelbarrow, a large toy, a flat-edged laundry bucket, a broom handle...

Game preparation time: 10 minutes

Instructions: Sowing and transporting sand, soil or fine sand by wheelbarrow or cars or carrying it in buckets placed on plates with wheels for flowers or loads is one of the most interesting tasks for children. They can use the sieves that can be purchased, but it is better to make a few frames from boards and nail nets with different holes. Across two stands, a wheelbarrow, a larger toy, e.g., truck, or a laundry bucket with a straight edge lay the handle of the broom, along which travels a sieve with sand back and forth, jerkily. The fine sand goes through, the thicker stays and goes to another pile. From the fine one a pile to play with or to be used for some other serious work is created. In doing so, however, the child discovers that it does not work if he puts too much sand on the sieve, which makes him adjust the amount.

15. Freight Cable Car

You need: a stronger rope, a pulley, a hook

Game preparation time: one hour

Instructions: A freight cable car helps the child to transport the sifted or mixed material elsewhere easily. Make the ropeway from a stronger rope on which the pulley slides. To ensure that the carrying rope is sufficiently taut and that the load does not slide on the ground, you or the children must know the driver's knot with which you tighten it really hard. Then attach a rope and a hook to the pulley, on which you hang, for example, a bucket with sand, fine sand and other materials.



16. Double Cable Car

You need: a stronger rope, a pulley, a hook, a basket of food and drinks

Game preparation time: 2 hours

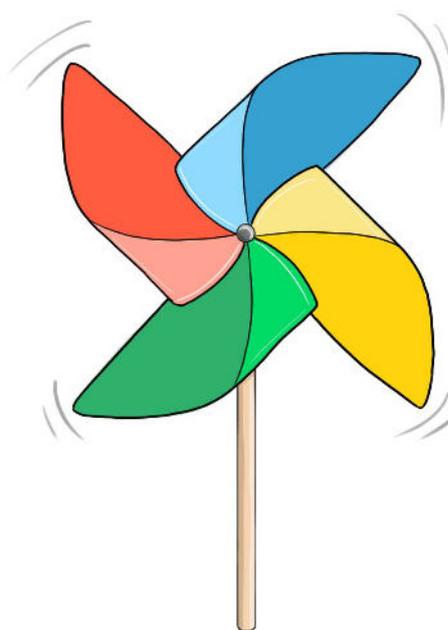
Instructions: There is a pulley on both sides and a rope tied in a loop in between. There is also a hook next to the knot. This way, you can move the rope from one end to the other, and you do not have to be next to a basket with sandwiches, fruit, ice cream, a refreshing drink or a thermos with a hot drink and cups, as you can move it all from a distance. The double ropeway system is especially useful in the campsite if the children have their own tent and a table 13 ft (4 m) away or at home, if they are playing behind the house and you do not want them running up and down the stairs dirty. Well, if the house is yours, you can attach one of the pulleys where it suits you, even to the kitchen window. Otherwise, make a gadget that will stick to a shelf on the inside. The window will be open anyway.

17. Merry Pinwheels

You need: some harder colored paper or softer cardboard or harder foil in the shape of a square; for a medium-sized pinwheel, 6 x 6 in. (15 x 15 cm) are enough, scissors, two plastic beads for beads, a tack or a pin, a ruler, a pencil and a stick that will hold the pinwheel

Game preparation time: 20 minutes

Instructions: You can make the popular pinwheels at home with your child from thicker paper, softer cardboard or harder foil. Use a ruler to draw a square with diagonals, which you cut 0.6 in. (1,5 cm) on all four lines with scissors. Then bend every other leg towards the middle and fasten it with a pin or a tack, which will also be the axis around which the pinwheel will rotate. To prevent paper and other things from rubbing against the stick with which you hold the pinwheel or against the pin, place a glass bead between them; two at a time, so that the glass brushes against the glass on each side of the pinwheel. To prevent it from peeling off, use a piece of cardboard, for example, from a milk container.



18. Flood Bag House

You need: at least 4 or 5 children, 140 CFT (4 m³) of sand for plaster or screed or sieved soil, 1 ft long (30 cm) carpenter's nails, a hammer or some barbed wire and many durable jute bags

Game preparation time: one hour

Instructions: The construction of houses with flood bags made of jute can represent a big project for a whole group of children. There must be at least four or five of them. You need another 141 CFT (4 m³) of sand, preferably one for plaster or screed. The sifted soil also works great, but the business is of the dirty kind. A project with a settlement and a fortress, for example, will take you a whole week.

You also need some carpenter's nails and a hammer to attach a bag every once in a while, to prevent slipping. Barbed wire is put between the layers of bags to build flood embankments! For an independent play of small children, all types of bags that do not disintegrate when damp are welcome. We once got a large number of faulty socks destined for junkyard - the castle was magnificent!



19. DIY Stream

You need: aluminium foil or polyvinyl, a small shovel, water, 4 in. (10 cm) long sticks

Game preparation time: 30 minutes

Instructions: Dig a shallow ditch for the stream. To make the bottom impermeable, put in some household aluminium foil or polyvinyl. Both should be covered with the surrounding material on the raised edges. Then fill with water.

Let's see if the edges are high enough everywhere. Maybe a pond or a small channel appears somewhere. If the height jump is greater, the water will even form a waterfall. Rods or planks of 4 in. (10 cm) can serve as boats, or you can make a bridge out of them. Even one stronger, shorter board can perform this role. If you split the stream into two branches, an island will form in the middle. The only thing missing is an interesting double bridge that will lead from one bank to the bridge and from the bridge back to the other bank. The submersible pump returns the water to the "spring" in a buried container over the pipe. The cost is similar to watching a movie with popcorn and coke for a family of four, only this time the party will last indefinitely, and the water will circulate.

20. Water Art

You need: a bucket of water, foam, a brush or a wooden spoon, an elastic or a string, concrete or asphalt base

Game preparation time: 10 minutes

Instructions: Drawing with water and foam brushes on asphalt or concrete is undemanding, and there is no need to wipe and clean up. Attach or wrap a piece of foam to a larger wooden spoon with elastics or a string, and trim the excess in the shape of a brush. A bucket of water is also needed, and the child can start creating. He draws lines, circles, characters, animals, people, events, anything that comes to mind. If you are bored because you are only watching the child, make yourself a brush and join him. The right game for the home parking lot!



21. Blindfold Maze

You need: a thicker and longer cord, a blindfold (scarf or shawl), at discretion also a helmet and ski goggles

Game preparation time: 10 minutes

Instructions: Tie the string to the first tree and pull it in irregular patterns from tree to tree. Sometimes quite high, other times at knee level. We do the same in the apartment, say under the table. We then blindfold all the participants who follow the rope laid in this way through a forest, through an orchard or an apartment. In nature, it will not be superfluous if they put a helmet on their heads and protect their eyes with ski goggles, especially if we deliberately set the path up in such a way that they sometimes run into a branch. For the smaller ones, however, there should not be any obstacles at the height of the head, as the feeling is unpleasant enough without new challenges. The goal of the game is for everyone to cross the path with their eyes closed and find out where they are just by touching. The more times the direction changes, the better. Thus, we overcome the fear of the unknown because we never know what will happen. But we have a guide that will definitely lead us to the goal.

22. Water Rapids and Waterfalls

You need: a gutter or a pipe, few angular plastic gutters, plastic ties and water

Game preparation time: 30minutes

Instructions: Directing water through gutters and pipes on the wall or the floor will be more fun and more successful if you buy 10 ft (3 m) of plastic gutters, which you then cut into smaller pieces. Also, keep in mind that gutters or pipes are assembled like tiles - from the bottom up! Thus, the water at the overflow does not flow under the next element but over it. To attach them to the wall, you need many holes through which the children connect the grooves and pipes with ties and pour water from the container into them at the top. The water will start flowing down the rapids they have prepared for it. Therefore, a raincoat will not be superfluous if they play on a vertical wall; otherwise, boots are more important.

23. Enormous Soap Bubbles

You need: a thicker twine or wool, a stick and some soap made from handwash detergent (which foams), 33.81 fl oz. (1 liter) of water and $\frac{3}{4}$ teaspoon of sugar or glycerin

Game preparation time: 10 minutes

Instructions: Huge soap bubbles are anything but small transparent colored balls. And these you will never be able to make with a small ring you buy at the store, but only with a large wool loop that you have tied to a stick.

After dipping the loop into the soapy water, run slowly with it to catch some light wind. A huge bubble will form, easily larger than 3 ft (1 m). A beautiful colorful rainbow will flow over it, and as you move, its shape will change. Until it bursts, of course.

And a secret recipe for quality soapy water: for 33.81 fl oz. (1 liter) of liquid, you need: $\frac{3}{4}$ teaspoons of sugar or glycerin that you add to the soapy water. This will make the bubbles more durable. Make the soapy water from a hand dishwashing detergent that foams, mixing $\frac{1}{4}$ water and $\frac{3}{4}$ detergent, and the bubbles will have just the right “thickness.” How will you know? The more colorful they are, the more correct the thickness. If they are completely transparent that means they are too thick, so add more water.



24. Tiny Constuction Workers

You need: rods, twigs and branches, plastic ties that you can buy in all megamarkets, shears for cutting reads, white or coloured wrapping paper and white carpentry glue

Game preparation time: 5 minutes

Instructions: Children quickly connect bars and cable ties into constructions. These can be skewer sticks, but if you have branches and twigs, that will, of course, be even more interesting as they are not all straight and branch out. Children soon master reed shears, but supervision is needed until they get used to handling them safely. Hunting yarns, pyramids, angular and also semi-circular buildings, with and without roofs, are created. You can cover the spaces between them with papers and get beautiful products through which light shines. With white wrapping paper and white carpentry glue, beautiful lanterns are created in which you place tealights. But be careful not to start a fire.

Both boys and girls also have a good time painting the already dried walls, wholly or partially lined with paper. In doing so, they should wear clothes that are dispensable. They will need them again next time, even if there are stains of glue or paint left on them.



25. Hand Sprayer

You need: sand and a sprayer, with a volume of over 70 fl oz. onwards, which you buy in a garden center, a larger stone, a piece of wood, a brick, or a larger toy

Game preparation time: 10 minutes

Instructions: A hand sprayer that has never been filled with chemicals before comes in very handy if you have a few bags of sand. Have the child put the sand

in a pile and show him how to use a hand sprayer. First, close all the valves, pour water, then use a pump to raise the tank's pressure. With a jet, the child thus washes, cuts and explores the sand. If he also buries a bigger stone, a piece of wood, a brick, a car or a house in it, the game will not end quickly.

Observing how the water drains the foundations so that things topple or are even carried down by an avalanche is extremely interesting. The child thus learns about the effects of erosion. What topples, what deepens, how water drains away, where it leaves, or deposits material... Even those who are less persistent are not bored.

26. Obstacle Racing

You need: a scooter, a bicycle, rollerblades, a skateboard, a tricycle, a pedal car or a tractor, balloons, sandpaper #40-grit

Game preparation time: 30 minutes

Instructions: The riding of scooters, bicycles, rollerblades, skateboards, tricycles, cars and tractors on pedals is quickly “spiced up” with balloons that need to be punctured during the ride. This is done by gluing coarse sandpaper to the exposed parts of the vehicle instead of sharp tips.

Altitude barriers, which make them have to bend down or that need to be bypassed and the like, are also an interesting challenge for small drivers. It is equally demanding if they have to grab a pot of yogurt, half-filled with water during the ride, and put it elsewhere on a slightly higher or lower shelf.



27. Blind Partner

You need: blindfold (scarf or shawl)

Game preparation time: 10 minutes

Instructions: The game blind companion is played in pairs, on uneven, even dangerous terrain, if the children are older. In doing so, the blindfolded one holds on to the one who sees and leads, not the other way around! This gives him a sense of control. The goal is to overcome obstacles along the way together and then switch roles. This is an exercise in which you should not joke with your "blind" partner, as the task is difficult even for adults. Interestingly, however, children are often able to do it better than adults. A friendship that will last forever is born!

28. Brick Race

You need: two bricks, which can be made of siporex, even of facade Styrofoam for each competitor, a 30 ft (10 m) long track

Game preparation time: immediately

Instructions: This game is also played in pairs. Each participant gets two bricks; they can be made of siporex or even of facade Styrofoam. Set a 30 ft (10 m) long track, and the race can begin. While the contestant is standing on one of the bricks, he moves another one in front of himself and steps on it. Then he moves the brick he stood on before in front of himself and then steps on it again... We can compete so that players get run out, on a small slope or across a puddle. Children thus learn a skill closely related to balance, rhythm and planning.



29. Sandy Highway

You need: a pile of soil or sand at least 10 ft (3 m) long, shovels and small shovels, buckets, trucks, excavators and shorter boards

Game preparation time: immediately

Instructions: A longer pile of soil or sand can be a real polygon for making roads. They only need to be tilted up or down as the real ones, so kids love to form serpentine on them. Once the roads are constructed, it is time to place more facilities and a bridge or a tunnel. If we are dealing with school children, let them make a list of what they all want in their town, including “parks” and “tree lines” made from branches and flowers in pots. Shovels and small shovels, as well as buckets, trucks, excavators and shorter boards, help boys and girls keep the project balanced. You only help them fill in the sand and let them do the rest themselves, thus training in cooperation, sharing ideas and teamwork.

30. Balloon Pop

You need: a balloon filled with water or paint, darts arrows

Game preparation time: 5 minutes

Instructions: A balloon filled with water or even paint is a much more exciting target for darts than the ordinary one. When it bursts, paint spills over the wall. We only have to make sure that the children do not stand too close, which makes their work easier. However, we can also stretch a badminton net so that it is necessary to aim in an arc and not with as much force and as horizontally as possible. After all, darts are not about strength but about skill.



31. Concrete Sculptures

You need: pieces of aerated concrete, siporex or ytong concrete that you can buy in stores with building materials, old screwdrivers or blunt chisels, wooden pistons, goggles, gloves, protective masks, nails, a wood saw, a file, sandpaper, a pile of sand or soil for the base

Game preparation time: 5 minutes

Instructions: Aerated concrete can be shaped by children with old flat-blade screwdrivers, so sharp chisels are not required. On the other hand, Wooden pistons develop eye-hand coordination, which makes them excellent for a child's development.

To begin, have the child write their name, keeping the letters at least 1 in. (2cm) thick. Then he should carve the ornaments that he wants of the same depth. Finally, he should sand the surface of the letters, and holes will appear everywhere, which gives a special effect. We have not yet been able to come up with a name that would not be worth putting on a shelf in a child's room. On top of that, the work is serious as they need goggles, gloves and because it is dusty, also protective masks to keep the dust from getting into their lungs.

They feel like real masters - and in this case, they are. But they can also drill holes, drive nails, saw with a wood saw, file, grind - they have more ideas than we do.

The base can be a pile of sand or soil, and they can work on the floor, or a work table can be made by attaching two boards to a flat surface and placing Styrofoam between them so that it does not escape during processing. The child should also process and trim the selected material by holding it away from himself at all times and not pulling it towards himself. The product will quickly be beautiful enough for an exhibition in his room or for a shelf in common spaces.

32. Bobsled Track

You need: a slightly sloping terrain and balls or marbles

Game preparation time: one hour

Instructions: A bobsled track can only be made on sloping terrain. The children prepare the track, make sure the balls do not jump out of the trough, and of course, press down on the bottom to keep everything running as smoothly as possible. Sometimes the track should also split and then return to one again. Have three children drop their balls at the same time and cheer loudly as they roll.

Meanwhile, the adults or older children can take bets on which ball or boule will be first at the finish. If none arrive, the one that rolled the longest way counts. If the ball derails, the player returns it to the track where it jumped out, and he puts it in the middle. The bets should be cheerful in nature. The main prize can be awarding the title of a guest of honor at the next meeting.

33. Sand Sculptures

You need: sand, a wooden frame or a box without the bottom and the lid at least 1.3 ft (40 cm) high or boards of equal length, screws, spoons, knives, spatulas, trowels, painting spatulas, a brush, a spatula, larger nails and a pencil

Game preparation time: one day to prepare the frame

Instructions: Sand is an even simpler material for creating things and more durable than one might think. Light rain, therefore, does not harm the sculptures, and they last in the sun for two days.

Before you start the work, you need to make a frame that is as tall as the sculpture. Therefore, you need a box without a bottom and a lid. Below there should be sand or a slightly sloping surface so that water can drain away. Pour the sand into the box and soak it until there is water on top. That is when you know it is sappy and sits well. You could also knock it together, but that is not necessary.

After 8 hours, tear the frame. It should be screwed with screws, which can be removed easily, and you get a huge "cake"! Cutting tools are spoons, knives, spatulas, trowels and the like. However, when too much is cut off, that cannot be fixed, so be careful. The pleasure is in the process, not in the product. The making of such sculptures is suitable for all ages from the age of five to one hundred.



34. Wood Crafting

You need: part of a trunk or a wood slice, about 6 in. (15 cm) thick, nails at least 2.5 in. (6 cm) long and a hammer weighing at least 0.5 lbs (200 g), a clothespin

Game preparation time: 5 minutes

Instructions: The part of the trunk or the wood slice that you can ask for if you meet foresters in the woods is an excellent base for hammering nails, which a five-year-old can do. They happily hammer and become adept. But not with a children's hammer; the nails should be 2.5 in. (6 cm) long, and the hammer should weigh at least 0.5 lbs (200 g). You'll find the hammer weight marked on the iron head of it.

When they are good at it to at least some extent, the nails can also be shorter. To avoid cracking the fingers, they should use a clothespin. They hold the nail with it until it is nailed to such an extent that it stands securely in the wood.

You can also draw a figure on the wood slice; if the child decides to lean a board on the nail, he should nail it only as much as the board is thick and not to the end. This will create a relief image. It is important that the wood slice is at least 6 in. (15 cm) thick - otherwise, it will crack - and that it is stable enough not to jump with each hammer blow. Grass is a great base, as well as soil, sand, fine sand.



35. Hot Air Balloon

You need: 4 sheets of thin paper for gift wrapping, several rolls of school duct tape, a soup plate, four pieces of thin wire, thin strings, ten drops of alcohol or hand sanitizer

Game preparation time: 2 hours

Instructions: Make a hot air balloon out of gift-wrapping paper, not packages. You need the thin, almost translucent one. The whole sheet measures about 27 in. x 39 in (70 x 100 cm). Glue the four sheets into a tube along the long edge with school duct tape to get a complete circle, and then glue another 27 x 27 in. (70 x 70 cm) cover on one opening, which will be the top of the balloon. Prepare the same size paper for the bottom, but draw a hole in the middle using a soup plate. Thread a thin wire into the edge of this round cut-out. To make the balloon stronger, you need three more pieces of wire, which you place on one-third of the rim and tie together in the middle. This is easiest to do before gluing the bottom into the remaining balloon.

Basically, you get a big square with a hole in the bottom, and three wires meet in the middle of it. Place a piece of cotton wool on them.

To hold the balloon nicely during the preparations for the flight, glue thin strings on the corners above. While two hold the balloon high, the third one drips ten drops of alcohol or hand sanitizer onto the cotton ball and lights it. The flame will heat the air in the balloon, which will quickly inflate. When it wants to fly, let it go.

The space for flights should be large enough, say a huge meadow, or even better, a field without hayracks, straw and the like. As the flame goes out quickly, the balloon soon cools and lands again. Because there is always some wind, it never lands where you let it go. It is best if it runs out of fuel soon after it rises. In any case, supervision of SMART adults is necessary.



36. Rocket Launcher

You need: a toy rocket launcher, which you can buy on [Amazon](#).

Game preparation time: 15 minutes

Instructions: With a compressed air rocket launcher, you can have a lot of fun and movement, and skill training will be immediate. The child jumps on the mat, and the air from it launches the rocket even more than 130 ft (40 m) high. For smaller spaces, it is easy to adjust it so that it does not land on roofs and trees. Be careful when targeting! Your targets are never humans or animals! If the rocket falls on a car, there will be no damage as it is very light and soft.



37. Secret Hideout

You need: a larger tarp, a thicker rope, used pallets, coarse sand, or ground bark

Game preparation time: 20 minutes

Instructions: You need a larger tarp that you unfold in the middle over a taut rope, as when covering firewood, a car or a trailer. The gable roof makes the space intimate and protects it from precipitation.

Children should place used pallets or coarse sand on the floor, and it is also very practical to use ground bark for bedding on garden paths or around trees so that there is no mowing. This prevents mud formation, and we can use anything for sitting so that our buttocks do not get cold. The same tent can also be made in the apartment.

38. Blanket Wrapping

You need: a larger thinner sheet, say for covering furniture during whitewashing, or polyvinyl

Game preparation time: 3 minutes for an individual child

Instructions: Blanket Wrapping is done by one of the children kneeling or sitting cross-legged in the middle of a larger sheet. The others grab the sheet, lift it to the height of his neck, and then walk with it in the same direction. The sheet will thus wrap around the child, squeezing him lightly and preventing him from moving. One of the more mature ones should be alert to possible panic attacks. In such a case, the child should be unwrapped immediately, especially if he is asthmatic. The experience is special and exciting. Even the more timid children are finally willing to indulge.



39. Hazel Sticks

You need: hazel branches, a pocket knife

Game preparation time: 30 minutes

Instructions: Hazel sticks invite the children to cut and carve, and peeling of bark can also be a lot of fun if the children have small but sharp knives that they need to learn how to handle. They can cut rings, peel rods lengthwise or completely, cut helices, and more, but always away from themselves. Each stick is different, and each one counts. If it reaches the height of the child's chest, it should be sharpened at the thinner end but still be as thick as an adult's index finger so that it does not break off too quickly. They can be used for digging holes, digging stones out of the ground and more. An ancient tool! And do not worry, the children will discover for themselves the purpose and ways to use it.

40. DIY Construction

You need: containers, trowels, a garden shovel, sticks, shears for reeds, skewers, wooden spatulas for examining the throat or ice cream sticks, branches from bushes, pieces of building material

Game preparation time: 3 minutes to load the tools into a bucket

Instructions: Many girls miss construction tools for girls. Even if they play outside with their girly toys, they want to arrange the surroundings of the house where their dolls and unicorns live. To do this, they need containers and smaller trowels. A sharper gardening spatula also comes in handy to cut the roots, align things, and the like. Sticks and scissors for reeds are useful, too. If nothing else, skewers are also very useful and wooden spatulas for throat examination and large sticks for ice creams. When they are playing on the ground and arranging the environment, they need branches from bushes and, of course, pieces of other building materials. Well, still, one cannot make a maternity ward for unicorns out of trampled earth.

41. Painting Colony

You need: a white, a black tempera paint and a tempera of your choosing, cut plasterboard or drawing sheets

Game preparation time: 15 minutes

Instructions: With just one colour, along with black and white, you will get many products that nicely complement each other. Everything can be, let's say, in blue or brown tones to look antique. The children paint the cut plasterboard, drawing sheets and the like. Prepare the exhibition with an opening and an interview, the way it happens in real life.

Make sure you do not forget to take a few dozen photos and send the selected one to a photographer to print it on paper. If you have a colour printer and paper, do it at home. Even black and white products are a nice document when they are in the right frame. Hang them on the wall to leave a lasting memory and proof, a cross-section of the moment.

42. River Mills

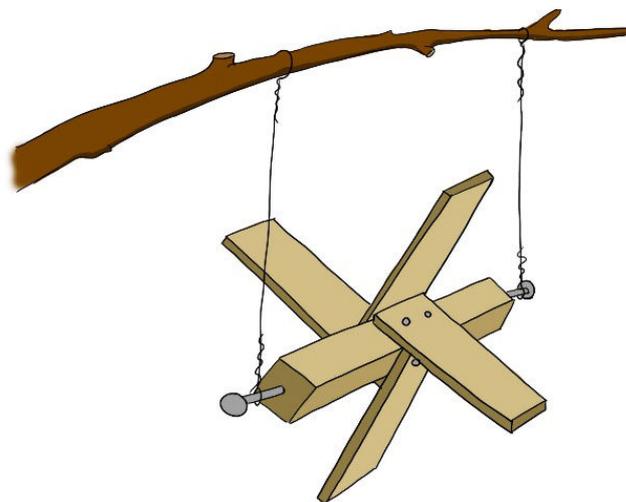
You need: a small pocket knife, a willow or hazel branch for the axis, four blades, and some patience

Game preparation time: 30 minutes

Instructions: Mills are still very popular with children. Cut to a suitable thickness a willow or hazel branch that will serve as an axis – 4 in. (20cm) long and about 1 in. (2 cm) thick. If we are making a mill with four blades, we have to split the axis twice, at an angle of about 90 °, and if we want to make a mill with six blades, we have to split the axis three times so that the blades are about 60 ° apart.

We cut four flat blades from an equally thick branch and shape them into a tip on one end. Split the axis in the middle so that the knife sticks out on the other side. We stick two blades in the resulting gap so that one looks up and the other down. We then intersect the axis again, perpendicular to the previous opening. As before, we stick the remaining two blades in this groove. In this task, care must be taken not to completely cut the rod, which serves as an axis.

It is very helpful to drive a nail into the axis of the mill so that you can wrap the wire on it. Wrap the other part of it, which must be longer than the mill's diameter, around the rod. Thus, the mill hangs under the rod, and the axis is turned in the same way as the rod. It is only necessary to tilt the rod low enough in a suitable place so that the blades are in the water and the mill works again. Fortified with larger stones or stuck in the ground, the rod nicely holds the grinder, which rotates smoothly. Simultaneously, there was no need to rummage through the water and move stones or rocks.



43. Megahorn

You need: cardboard, newsprint, white carpentry glue, a bit of water

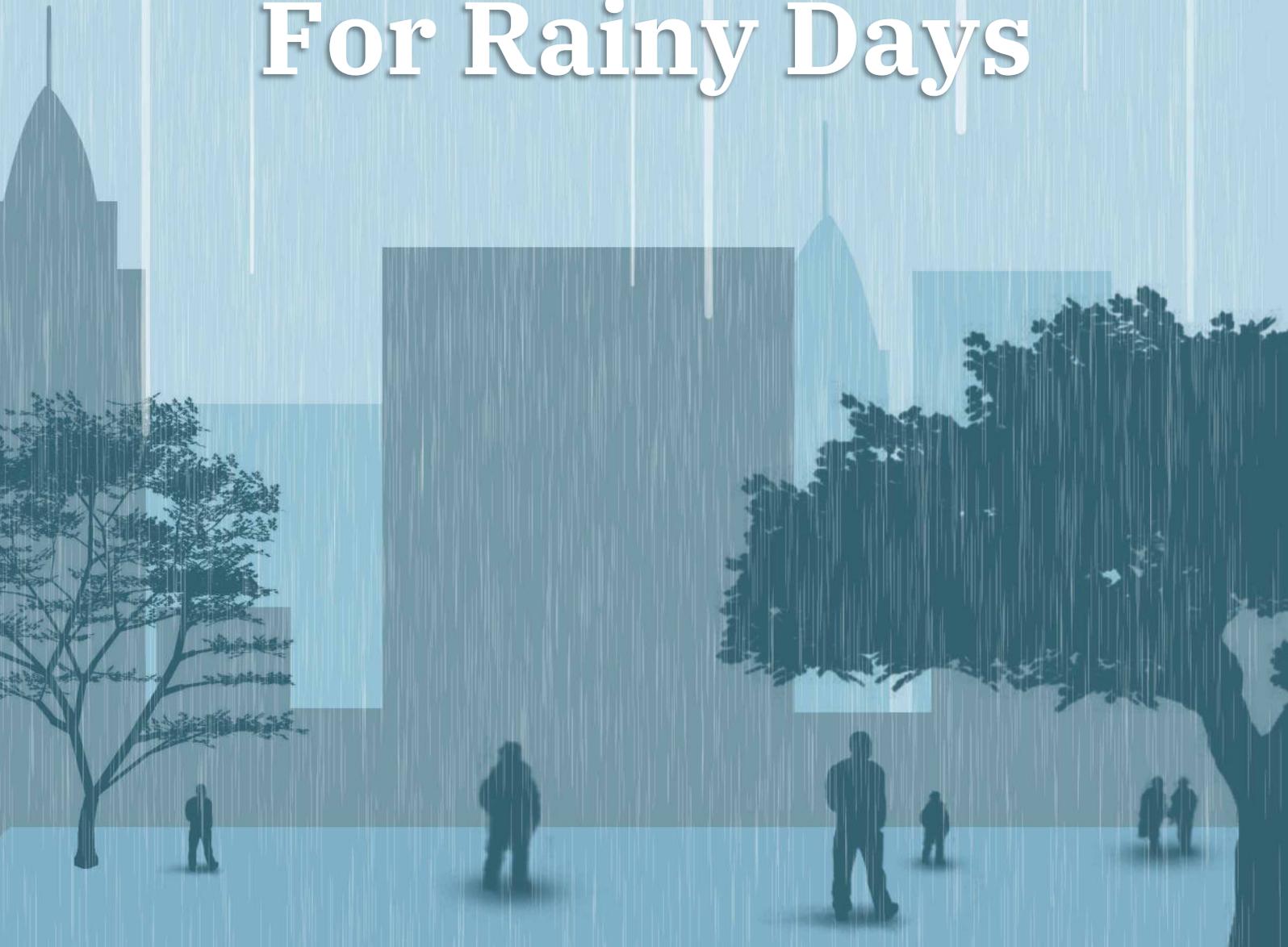
Game preparation time: together with glue-drying one day; if a wide duct tape is used, 30 min

Instructions: Children make the megaphone or the speaking trumpet out of cardboard, which they shape into a large pointed tube and wrap with several layers of newsprint. For gluing, they use white carpentry glue, to which they add one-third of water and mix well. The paper is dipped into the prepared mixture and then glued to the speaking trumpet. They cut the top just enough to make a hole the size of their palm at the pointed end. They paint it, and the commentator can already speak loudly into the tube that directs his voice.

Let the children take turns commenting. You may discover a hidden talent and break through the fear of public speaking. Both have a very good effect on self-esteem.



INDOOR ACTIVITIES For Rainy Days



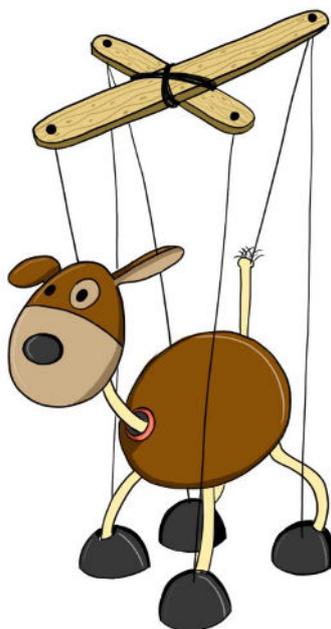
44. Puppet Making

You need: yogurt cups, a sock or a milk carton

Game preparation time: from 30 minutes to 30 days, depending on the complexity of the puppet

Instructions: You need some time to make puppets, but every minute is paid off when the game begins. You can make them from yogurt cups, a sock or a milk carton. There are no limits. The puppets are more demanding even if you opt for a simple cross. There is enough material online, and for the first puppet, a bird that only walks is quite the right solution.

All types of puppets require skills, not just knowledge; therefore, practice. If the puppets speak, they also require speaking exercises. If you opt for a ventriloquist puppet, which means you have a hand in its head and control at least its mouth, then you will also have to practice pronouncing text without moving your lips. Special types of puppets are those that you put on yourself, like the one that gives the impression that one person is carrying another in a basket, while children like to make those that look as if a child was riding a bear.



45. Puppet Show

You need: a puppet, which you made yourself or bought

Game preparation time: from 20 minutes on

Instructions: Puppet leading is a special story, probably as old as man, as they represent persons, not just images. The puppet can thus have a dog's appearance, but it does not only represent the dog as an animal but quickly summarizes the peculiarities, personal characteristics. With them, children can replay various stories, events and jokes. For starters, well-known songs are suitable - that what you listen to at home.

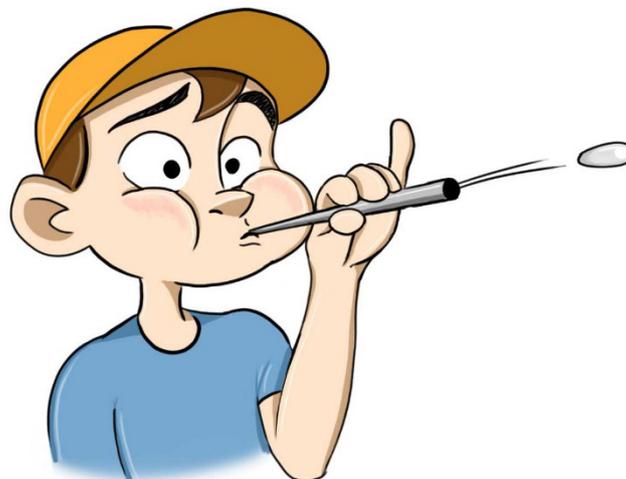
46. Blowpipes

You need: an aluminum tube about 8 in. (20 cm) long, sandpaper, plastic balls for air guns or boiled paper, a sheet, a container of water

Game preparation time: half an hour to sterilize the balls

Instructions: Blowpipes bring shooting drills into any space. As ammunition, use plastic balls for air pistols. Make the blowpipe out of an aluminum tube; cut it into 8 in. (20 cm) long pieces, and polish its sharp parts. The balls should be washed before the first use and disinfected before the next, preferably in boiling water.

One - one! - The shooter puts the ball in his mouth, pushes it into the tube with his tongue and blows. Make a ball catcher out of the sheet, and the targets can be objects that emit sound or containers where they wait. If there is water in the container, just a few of them jump out. Children, never shoot people! Because the balls are small, they are also not suitable for small children. So be careful that your brother or sister does not pick it up from the ground. Only objects that cannot be put through the sleeve of the toilet paper roll are safe for toddlers, no matter how long they insist.



47. T-shirt Painting

You need: a T-shirt, acrylic paints, baking paper, brushes and iron

Game preparation time: 1 hour

Instructions: T-shirts can be painted with acrylic paints. However, do not buy the expensive ones for textiles, as acrylic are quite as much the same, but with a bit of rubber. They also last the same, whether they are expensive or cheap. If you paint, dry, and iron the T-shirt through the “baking” paper, the paintings are almost as durable. And you can paint what you want as well as write, of course. Do the work with brushes and a paint that is a bit diluted.

48. Dragons and Dinosaurs

You need: tempera or water-based paints or acrylic paints, Styrofoam, siporex, cardboard

Game preparation time: 30 minutes

Instructions: Dinosaurs and dragons that interest children in a particular period must, of course, live somewhere as well. And this is an excellent opportunity to, together with the child, make an old cave or a castle, where you can chain the dragon. Paint it with school crayons. Since these are probably in school, I recommend acrylic paints for home use - the few basic ones and two white tubes. But be careful - acrylic is not washed from clothes like tempera paints, and so it stays on the T-shirt, pants and the tablecloth!



49. City or Diorama

You need: branches and roots, air-hardening modelling clay ([DAS clay on Amazon](#)) or plaster, a ballpoint pen, Styrofoam, sticks for examining the oral cavity or from ice cream, vine or household scissors, a hot glue gun, white glue.

Game preparation time: 15 minutes

Instructions: Depending on the child's interest, the diorama is a never-completed project, which you can upgrade together. Somewhere along the way, the child will begin to master as many techniques as you. You can use branches and roots for trees, air-hardening modelling clay or plaster for bricks. Embossing with a ballpoint pen into Styrofoam also gives excellent results. The same goes for buildings made of sticks for examining the oral cavity and those made for ice creams; the former are larger and clean and are sheared with vine shears or household scissors. You can glue them with white glue, but it takes a long time to stick. It goes faster with a hot glue gun, where you usually do not have to wait for the result.

50. Short Sketch

You need: a selected text

Game preparation time: there are no special preparations

Instructions: Have children say the same text in different ways as they would in different film genres. Let them rehearse the story first so that it flows smoothly, then record them and have them tell the text in the same way, but continue recording.

The cameraman also plays the director's role and tells the actors that the play was too shallow. If emotions are lacking, let them play the same story with exaggeration. Too fast is not good either, so let them slow down the "recording," then tell them it was too slow and go crazy with the pace.

The time to review the footage, comment and laugh follows.

If someone needs a helmet, they should put a kitchen pot on their head. Instead of a sword, a wooden spoon will be used, a broom will serve as a rifle... if the play requires so. Improvise in everything! Some jokes are entirely appropriate and long enough stories. Children will develop a sense of pace, collaboration and teamwork, emotions, and coordination.

51. Keyring Party

You need: locks with keys, a wooden board with an iron ring, a keyring

Game preparation time: 15 minutes

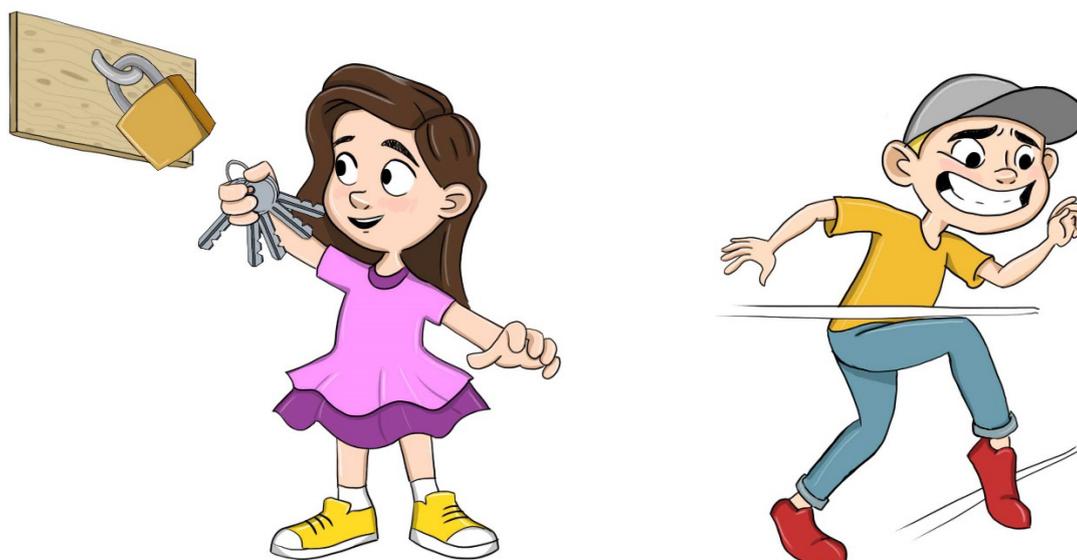
Instructions: Padlocks are a very tempting secret for younger children, especially if they are older. Choosing the right key can be a demanding task. Lock all the locks on a larger iron ring that is attached to a wooden board. Then place the keys together on a key ring. This way, the child will always have to remove the key from the lock before using the second key on the ring.

52. Mission Impossible

You need: paper cut into long strips, adhesive tape, a flashlight

Game preparation time: 10 min

Instructions: Cut the paper into strips. If you need longer ones, glue them together. Then fasten them to the wall with the adhesive tape in the narrower part of the apartment, for example, in the hallway - like the laser traps you see in movies. The strips should be at different heights, and children should crawl under them, jump over them as over obstacles, being careful not to touch them. A turned-off light and a flashlight significantly increase the feeling of drama of the event. If any of the strips are torn, the player must return to the start of the course. Such are the rules!



53. Construction Party

You need: lots of yogurt cups, corks, planks of different sizes, optionally large pieces of Styrofoam facade and white carpentry glue

Game preparation time: 15 minutes

Instructions: Before the children get to work, they should decide what to build - walls, a castle, a house or a bridge. Different and diverse elements offer more opportunities to create, but if they differ too much from each other, that also is not good. Just enough to provide a choice and a better fit of the parts between each other. From the same or different pieces, children can build a number of buildings or structures, and each should use at least 300 parts. This will give them a feeling of abundance and affect ambition in thinking. The pieces should be glued together with white carpenter's glue.

54. Screwing Kit

You need: from 16 to 20 in. (40 - 50 cm) long wooden board, wooden and connecting screws with nuts of various sizes, a tool kit with fork or ring wrenches, Allen keys, Torx wrenches, ordinary and Phillips's screwdrivers...

Game preparation time: 10 min

Instructions: Ensure children's manual dexterity with a set of right tools and different screws. Tighten the various screws (wooden and connecting) on the 16 in. (40 cm) long board. You also need appropriate nuts and wrenches for them. The child then selects and searches among the tools and tests which one unscrews each screw. Smaller children should be supervised at work, as these are smaller parts that could be eaten or pushed into the nose or ear.



55. Screwdriver Boards

You need: gypsum boards size about 12 x 16 in. (30 x 40 cm), gypsum board screws, an Allen screwdriver, an awl or a thinner screwdriver, files, sandpaper, a protective mask, an apron, a vacuum cleaner

Game preparation time: 5 min

Instructions: Gypsum boards are fastened with special screws that have a cross head and screw well. The child drills a guide hole with a thin screwdriver or awl. He wraps a plaster screw in it by hand and continues with a Phillips screwdriver. As with art made from nails, the child can produce raised images if the screws are screwed to a certain depth.

Before discarding the board that has been used several times, remove the screws from it and store it until the next time. Since the work is dusty, a work apron and a vacuum cleaner come in handy. Gypsum boards are perfectly sawn and sanded, but we must wear a protective mask. The boards can be purchased at a building material store. The size of A3 drawing sheet will be suitable for children.

56. Marble Labyrinths

You need: a cardboard box, a hot glue gun, scissors, cardboard, cardboard strips about 1 in. (2 cm) wide, marbles or other balls

Game preparation time: 40 min

Instructions: The game board can be made from the lid of a pizza box or a shoebox. It is only important that it has an edge at the sides and is strong enough. Use the scissors to cut a few 1 in. (2 cm) wide cardboard strips of any length. Glue them to the game board with the hot glue gun to form a maze. Where you still have some space left in the maze, you can cut a hole in the board so that the ball will fall through if carelessly directed.

The creation itself will be fun, let alone the play with the maze. The game is played so that the child holds the board in his hands, tilting it forward, backward, left and right. This leads the ball to the finish line and avoids holes. Children will thus practice coordination, anticipation and skill training.

57. Plushie Show

You need: plush toys, a mobile phone or a camera, play props, extra light, music

Game preparation time: 20 min

Instructions: Prepare a show for plushies or pets together with the children. You, too, take an active role. If there are no other spectators, do not just perform in front of the camera or the phone, but place other plush toys that will be your enthusiastic audience in the auditorium. Start recording before the performance, as you can cut the video if necessary. Do not stop the camera during or immediately after the performance. For family documentation, the recorded play will only be the axis around which the debates revolve before, during and after the play. Over the years, what happens at the show is more important than the show itself! The two minutes before and after tell you all about the relationships you had at the time. Children are actors, and spectators should be placed wherever they want them. The documentary part of the show, which includes the preparation of the scenery, costumes, lights, make-up, singing and dancing inserts, can be inserted before or after the main recording. Experiencing some big event from the background is entirely different than watching a show sitting in the first row.



58. My First Collection

You need: cardboard, glue, scissors, cotton pads for makeup removal

Game preparation time: 45 min

Instructions: You can prepare collection display trays from different materials. The most suitable is, of course, cardboard. It is appropriately solid, easy to cut, sticks well, and you usually always have it at hand, also in the form of packaging waste. You start by gluing the frame to the cardboard board first. Then glue partitions on it, which should be as high as the frame. The spaces you get should be of such dimensions that we can glue cotton pads used for facial care (makeup removal) into them. Collection materials are very different: fruit and vegetable seeds, stones, fossils, coins, ...

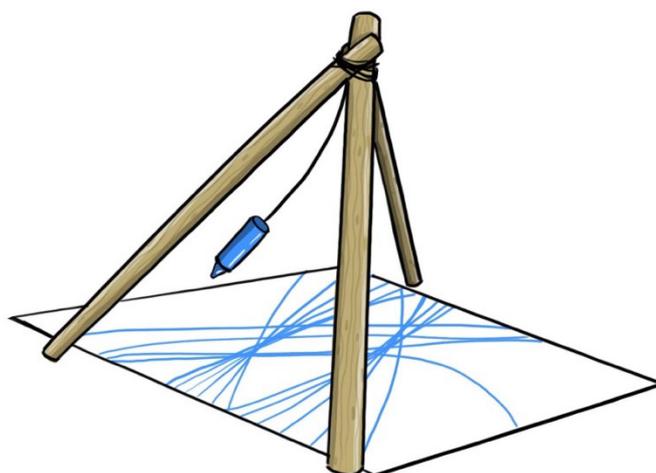
59. Pendulums

You need: pots, ropes, nails, a torch, pliers, table protection, a large paper sheet of dark color or a canvas, sand or acrylic paint, scissors

Game preparation time: 30 minutes

Instructions: You take a plastic water bottle and cut off the bottom. On the cut part's rim, make holes, best with a hot nail that you hold with pliers while heating. Thread a string into the holes and hang the pot on the light above the table. Unscrew the stopper on the bottle, make a hole in it with a hot nail and screw it back onto the bottle. On the table, under the light with the plastic bottle, place the protection, and then a large piece of paper in a darker shade.

Use your finger to cork up the hole in the stopper and shake the fine sand into the hanging bottle. Swing the bowl in a circle and pull your finger out of the hole in the stopper. It will draw circles first, and then its path will increasingly turn into an ellipse. The trace on the paper left by the fine sand will thus draw interesting patterns. Instead of fine sand, you can also use acrylic paint and fill several bottles with different colors and swing them simultaneously. If you place a canvas on the table, you will undoubtedly get amazing pictures that you will be happy to hang on the wall. Experiment!



60. Indoor Sandbox

You need: a plastic box on wheels (for storing clothes, bedding or toys under the bed), sand or fine sand, pebbles, pieces of brick, a board, toys

Game preparation time: 20 min

Instructions: Plastic boxes on wheels, most commonly used for storing things under the bed, are, due to their size, very suitable for a “house” sandbox. We pour some fine sand into them, add pebbles and pieces of brick, a board for a bridge or a roof and the fun game can begin. Both girls and boys know how to play for hours in such a sandy paradise in the middle of their room. You can also mix the fine sand and add water to make it shape nicely. Various toys can also be put in the container, as well as houses, cars, LEGO bricks, and it is an ideal place for “Jurassic Park” with dinosaurs. Did I mention that the airport and the city also find a place in it?

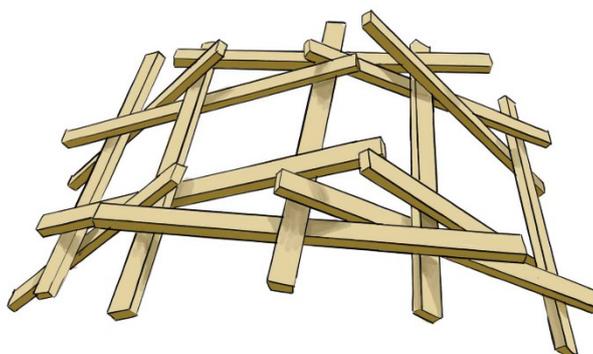
61. Da Vinci Bridge

You need: sticks or flat boards

Game preparation time: 5 min

Instructions: Da Vinci’s self-supporting bridge can be built from rod elements. If these are flat, making the bridge will be even easier. If you do not know the construction technique, take a look online. Tip: Bridge construction is part of the 6th-grade school curriculum. Did they tell you?

You place the sticks so that they lean on each other. Da Vinci made such a bridge out of logs and found that it does not need an additional binder but stands because the logs support each other.



62. Giant Dominoes

You need: flat boards, dominoes, books, CDs, DVDs

Game preparation time: 10 to 15 min

Instructions: Falling like dominoes is a term for elements that we place vertically on edge. When we trigger the fall of the first one, it overturns the one standing next, then that one overturns the next one... and so on until the last. In the apartment, you can use dominoes, boards, CDs or covers from DVDs, books, in short, anything of similar shape and size. The goal is to string as many as possible - then the pleasure of watching them fall will also last longer.



63. Homemade Plasticine

You need: cups, flour, salt, water, oil, a spoon, edible paints, cookie cutters, toothpicks, glitter, etc.

Game preparation time: 10 to 15 min

Instructions: Making homemade plasticine is a lot more fun than buying it in a shop. You can find all the ingredients in your kitchen, except maybe edible paints. You need 2 cups of flour, 1 cup of salt, 1 cup of cold water and 1 tablespoon of oil. Mix the ingredients well or knead them into smooth dough, divide it into piles, and add edible paint.

When designing figurines from homemade plasticine, the child will enjoy it even more if he can also use cookie cutters, toothpicks, glitter, coloured beads or something similar.

64. Indoor Camping

You need: four sticks, at least 7 ft (2 m) long, a string, a sheet, a blanket, a towel, pillows, toys, LED bulbs, Christmas lights or a flashlight

Game preparation time: 1 hour

Instructions: The tent for indoor camping can be made from sticks that you connect at the top with ties or a string. The sticks must be at least 7 ft (2 m) long; they can be garden poles, bamboo poles or slats. We need at least four to make the tent look like a pyramid. Connect them below with a string so that they cannot get too far apart.

To protect the floor, attach a lid or a stopper from the milk packaging to their ends. Then cover the sticks with ordinary sheets and hang a bath towel over the entrance. Lay blankets on the floor.

Comfort is essential, which you will only be aware of when your child invites you in and does not let you out. Pillows also come in handy. Have the children bring some more toys into the tent. For indoor lighting, use LED bulbs that do not heat up. You can also install New Year's lights, but a battery-powered lamp is enough.



65. Chalk Board or Chalk Wallpaper

You need: a board or a “write and erase” wall sticker, white and colored chalks, chalks for asphalt, pieces of plaster, a cleaning sponge

Game preparation time: 10 to 15 min for board installation or wallpaper gluing

Instructions: Your wall can become a handy creative surface. Just make sure the board is placed low enough for the child and high enough for you. If it is rectangular, place it horizontally.

And how to get to the "board"? Of course, you can buy it at toy stores, but it is a lot more fun if you make it with the child, for example, with board paint that you can find online or in hobby program stores. Black or dark matte paint for chipboard will also work. However, the easiest way is to stick a so-called "write and erase" wall sticker on the wall. In any case, you just get used to the fact that some rooms in the house will always be the kind that you will often sand, putty and whitewash. The children's room is definitely among them.

You can also place the board on the wall of the space in the apartment you are using as a workshop or in the garage. For drawing and writing on it, white as well as colored chalks, asphalt chalks, pieces of plaster will come in handy, but do not use crayons because then the chalk does not stick to the surface as well.

The board will help the child get distracted, and you can also organize important information and handy notes on it. Be sure to place a wooden chalk shelf and a cleaning sponge under it.



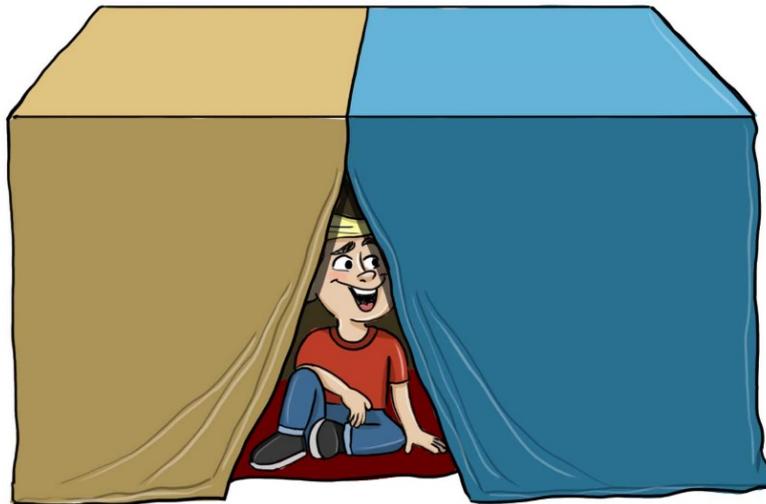
66. Dining Table Hideout

You need: a big dining table, sheets, blankets, towels, pillows, toys, LED bulbs, Christmas lights or a flashlight

Game preparation time: 10 to 15 min

Instructions: Spread the blankets and the sheets over the dining table in the kitchen to create a small shelter or a tent that will be a great reading nook, so light in it is a must. However, it is also mandatory that you have enough time, say after dinner.

Other instructions for lighting and comfort are the same as for the tent. All kinds of toys are also welcome in the shelter, as well as books, brothers, sisters, dad and mom! There are times when a child wants to be in such a space alone or with other children, and the time when he shares it with one of the parents is especially magical. That is also the best time for stories or fairy tales.





WINTER
and
SNOW

67. Straw Bag Racing

You need: a strong polyvinyl foil (for example, for storing mattresses or a vacuum bag for storing clothes) and soft filling (straw, plush toys, a pillow, an old blanket)

Game preparation time: 15 minutes

Instructions: Fill the thick polyvinyl foil with straw or other soft filler and tie it like a sack. The tied part is the handle, where the child holds the bag while riding down snowy slopes. Because there are no rails or turn signals, the bag does not follow any direction, and it rotates. The ride is thus unpredictable and full of laughter, and the child, while testing his limits, can prove what he can do and improve his motor skills.



68. Jerrycan Racing

You need: a closed polyethylene flat container or a jerrycan with rounded edges (manual for fuel, water or other liquids) and a string

Game preparation time: 10 minutes

Instructions: Fuel containers are nicely rounded, with few edges, so they glide perfectly on lightly trampled snow. When empty, they are also light, have a handle and are a comfortable footstool to sit on even during lunch. If you attach a rope to it, you make an excellent sled, which even smaller children can easily put on their shoulders when they crawl uphill toward the start of the sledding ground. During the ride on a harder, icy surface though, the jerrycan emits loud yet unobtrusive drumming sounds that are a mandatory part of the fun, as they attract many envious glances of young and old sledders nearby, which makes children enjoy indescribably.

69. Bear Adventure

You need: the largest teddy bear the family owns, a stronger polyvinyl foil (for example, mattress packaging or a vacuum bag for storing clothes)

Game preparation time: 10 minutes

Instructions: Glue or tie the largest teddy bear in a plastic bag. The tied part is the handle, where the child holds the bag while riding down snowy slopes. During the day, the bear will thus be a soft BASE for the child on the sledding ground, and in the evening, the best friend with whom the child has experienced incredible adventures. In general, preschool children like to share their day with their bears before bed, thus strengthening their memory.

70. Special Snowman

You need: a bucket, a shovel, a scraper, a file or some other tool for shaping a snowman from a snow mass, a carrot for the nose and charcoal for the eyes, an old hat or a gown, a scarf, a tie - whatever the fashion of snowmen is

Game preparation time: you take the tools, find snow and start working merrily

Instructions: Anyone can make a snowman, but only when the snow sticks and the snowballs remain reasonably large. However, for snow giants, we have to pile the snow and then cut it from the snow mass to get the shape we want. Giants can thus be made even when the snow does not stick together well enough to roll snowballs.

How do we get started? There are several ways: we can make a bigger pile, make a cylinder of it with a shovel and continue with the next one. The cylinders are then placed on top of each other like huge Lego bricks so that we get an up to 13 ft (4 m) high snowman.

If you have a plastic bucket, jam snow into it and turn it upside down, as in sandpits. The result will be the same - if you persevere long enough, of course.

71. The Snowman Has a Snowwife

You need: a bucket, a shovel, a scraper, a file or some other tool for shaping a snowman from a snow mass, a carrot for the nose and charcoal for the eyes, a scarf, jewelry... Women in particular love to be beautiful and modern!

Game preparation time: you take the tools, find snow and start working merrily

Instructions: No one likes to be alone, not even snowman! Therefore, order the kids to make a wife for the giant in the yard, and you will see the difference in size. The children can also play with hats, at least when you are there, and use handkerchiefs and jewelry that you have not liked for a long time. The only thing that matters is that they put these things away when the snow melts because they are not for trash, just on loan.

The wife may also have breasts - voluptuous ones if teenagers make them. Well, it would be the same if fathers made the snow wife. However, they are not allowed... Do not be too puritanical, but do not let children be too anatomical either. And if you find a hole instead of a nose on the snowman in the morning and the carrot is planted much lower, that was very likely done by teenage girls.

If instead of fingers, they put a branch on a hand - a stick, tallow cakes can also be hung up and serve as a bird feed.



72. The Snowman Family

You need: a bucket, a shovel, a scraper, a file or some other tool for shaping a snowman from a snow mass, a carrot for the nose and charcoal for the eyes, some horn or stick-on which children can also hang tallow cakes for hungry birds.

Game preparation time: you take the tools, find snow and start working merrily

Instructions: As with humans, even among snowmen, it often happens that love brings them offspring.

Therefore, order the children to place children next to the Snowman and the Snowwife. They usually make as many as there are in their own home or at their neighbor's who have a really large family. Therefore, they may need a huge amount of material for their snowy artwork.

But you will achieve an even more interesting artistic impression if you ask them before creating what they do in this family? Then take a look and marvel at their interesting layout. And do not forget to take some photos! You see, movies are fine, but you do not watch them, whereas you print the pictures and put them on the wall so that in spring, they remind you of the wonderful winter joy.

73. Snow Painting

You need: snow and edible paints

Game preparation time: just dilute the edible paint, and you can start

Instructions: For all figures made of snow, it is considered that you can paint them with sprayers in which you have diluted edible paints. You can also use acrylic, but that is a foreign object in nature, while the edible paints used for cakes break down in nature and do not need to be cleaned.

For example, if you draw a few dark lines on a lying larger cat, you immediately get a tiger. At the same time, a high snow wall can be a great base for cultural and witty inscriptions, real works of art or signposts → leading to a birthday party or a hidden treasure. Where the snow is hardened on the ground, you might want to draw also hopscotch? Either way - edible paints kick ass!

74. Shoeskating

You need: shoes with a smooth sole that glide nicely and at least 13 ft (4 m) of a smooth, snowy trail, even better if it is slightly icy. Especially for smaller children, we also recommend the use of a helmet and protective equipment for rollerblading

Game preparation time: 15 minutes (2 minutes to put the shoes on & 13 minutes for field preparation)

Instructions: On smooth snow, skating in shoes with a smooth sole is excellent entertainment and survival school at the same time. Taking a run, riding and stopping one way or another, either with your knees, by doing telemark, with your buttocks, or in a pair holding hands, is an unforgettable experience. The more dexterous a child is, the greater the run he will take or not if he sees that he does not master the terrain. Thus, the child assesses his abilities, is careful where he needs to be, and braver when he wants to prove himself.

Because, as I have mentioned, you can also fall during each ride, which is how the child "trains" catching balance and develops motor skills. After all, we can fall anywhere, and we do it most commonly in home bathrooms. Therefore, it is necessary to master reflexes with which we can prevent more severe consequences.



75. Snow Safari

You need: a bucket, a shovel, a scraper, a file or some other tools for shaping animals from a snow mass, charcoal for the eyes, branches and twigs for the mustache, and edible paints or acrylic spray paints

Game preparation time: you take the tools, find snow and start working merrily

Instructions: The shaping of cats, dogs, lions, tigers or recumbent sphinxes of all sizes and shapes from a snowball is exceptional for children. In the fresh snow, they can be done with gloves initially, and each child should make their own. They make a long pile on the floor, add ears, paws, muzzle, two bumps for the hind legs and a tail at the back, a long one for, say, a lion, a shorter one for a dog. After that, it is time for edible paints, and here the fun for the kids begins! Dilute the paints with water and pour into a pastry syringe with which the child colors the snow. If he makes yellow and black lines across the belly, a tiger is quickly made. Finally, they should take a shovel and clean the surroundings so that the snow around the works of art will turn white again and the figure will stand out.

They can also use acrylic spray paints to paint the animals, as they are non-toxic and do not need to be removed. As long as the snow is frozen, they can be seen, and then they are simply gone.

When several animals are lying or sitting in the snow safari park, let the children make a "king" - a larger animal with a crown. And so, out of effort, a story emerges.



76. Snow Animals Climb Trees

You need: sticky, wet snow, some edible paint and a lot of imagination

Game preparation time: immediately when you want it

Instructions: You can form shapes of animals out of wet snow. You can also create a rabbit on a tree trunk or some other upright base, which the snow will adhere to well. It will look like the rabbit is climbing! The condition, of course, is that the snow is wet enough and adheres nicely to the basis. You have to cram the snowball on a branch. In case you fail to do this, you can also place it between the branches.

Even a fish and any other animal that cannot climb can be found on your tree. Or perhaps the front of a cat, with the head and two paws peeking from the trunk on one side and the back paws and tail peeking out on the other. Together, they will give the impression that the animal is crawling through a tree. In any case, the effects will be amazing. Now that you are a master at snow painting, just draw a few more lines across the animals' bodies, but do not paint larger areas.



77. Eskimo Igloo

You need: a bigger pile of snow, a shovel or anything else that will help the child dig a hole in the snow, polyvinyl or a lying mat for the beach

Game preparation time: one hour

Instructions: Shaping an Eskimo igloo from a pile of snow is usually tackled by the less skilled children. Sometimes, however, others "quickly" decide for it when a large hole has already formed in the snow, which they make so much bigger that they can hide in the igloo. They also need polyvinyl or a beach mat to keep them

from getting dirty or getting wet while playing. The best are those made of foam and coated with plastic wrap. It is important that they do not get too wet and that children can sit on them while playing. Often the ceiling is not thick enough and does not carry weight, and it is thus sprinkled, and children are left with a small tunnel, through which they then crawl in or out.

78. Snowball Igloo

You need: a larger polyvinyl or tarp for the roof, a ski pole (for older children), a polyvinyl or lying mat for the beach and warm, waterproof gloves, tea party utensils, homemade cookies and a lot of good mood

Game preparation time: 20 minutes

Instructions: Children build the igloo made from snowballs as big as a basketball from the ground up, usually according to the “beaver” system. What do I have in mind? Beavers simply do not have an architect. However, all of them put their trunk where it seems most appropriate, and they always succeed in building a dam. Similarly, each child should make as many snowballs as possible and fasten them into a round wall at his discretion. Why is this important? Where there is no boss, everyone participates equally responsibly and enjoys the construction. Well, indeed, it often happens that there is no ceiling. Therefore, it is good for parents to lend a sheet or tarp, and there should be something on the floor that will prevent them from walking on the ground or mud, say a beach mat.

Older children can also borrow ski or cross-country poles at home to help with construction. They pin one in the middle, stick the other to its strap, draw a circle, and then use it during construction to support the new snowballs until they are well fixed to the wall. Construction begins first from the outside, and when the walls are high, one of the children standing in the igloo is handed snowballs by the others.

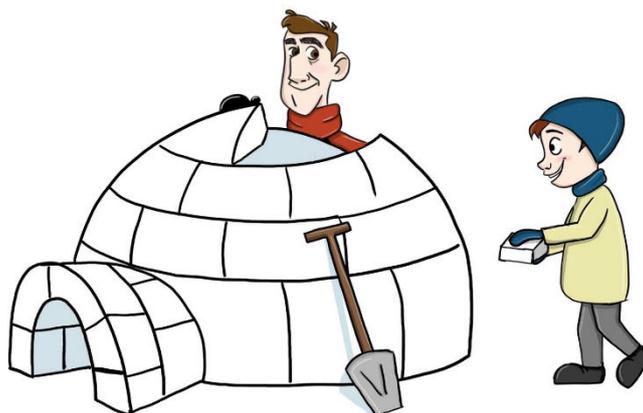
This way of building is a great experience for children who coordinate their performances through activity. Every snowball counts! Bigger or smaller! Tea parties and horror movies are the right themes for an igloo with one or two tealights! Oh, and sandwiches and freshly roasted chestnuts as well (freeze it in the fall). With enough blankets, children can also sleep in the igloo in the home garden, depending on their age and maturity. However, if this is a family event, it is a sweet experience in any case as you will be staying and breathing very closely.

79. Brick Igloo

You need: snow shovels, a larger rectangular plastic container (can be for storing toys or laundry), a larger polyvinyl or beach mat and warm, waterproof gloves, a bucket of cold water or a tealight and a lot of work zeal

Game preparation time: 3 hours

Instructions: Construction from snow bricks is classic construction that results in a solid building, but children need a few tools, preparation, and maybe even some help. If snow with a hard crust is made, the bricks are cut in half with snow shovels so that they are pointed on one side and sit firmly on top of each other and do not slip. Each row is also slightly inclined inwards compared to the previous one, and finally, the hole at the top closes on its own. If it is freezing at night and you pour cold water over the building in the evening, you can even walk on it the next day, and it will not collapse. In a private garden, leave a candle lit in the igloo. If there is no special wind and it is cold, the effect will be similar - the bricks will freeze. However, the igloo will not be as solid.



80. Snow Grease

You need: shoe cream or classic shoe polish in low metal containers

Game preparation time: 40 minutes

Instructions: Lubricate the tools, skis, snowblowers, shovels, wooden and plastic sleds with shoe cream or shoe polish in low metal containers. For example, place a snow shovel in a room to thaw and wipe it with a cloth. Then, make a thin coating with another cloth over the entire surface, both outside and inside, especially around the corners, edges, and screws. It will be enough if you just rub it with a greased cloth. The colour depth does not matter, nor does it matter whether the shovel is made of plastic, metal or wood. When finished, place it in front of the

house to cool to the outside temperature. By the time you get dressed and put on your shoes, this has usually already happened.

Wet snow will not stick to such a shovel, and a moment later, you can use it to cover a puddle, and even powdery snow, dry snow, will not stick to the shovel again after two or three throws, which makes it possible also for children to remove snow from the yard or driveway.

Sand the sled a little before applying, especially if it is already rusty, and then apply shoe polish to it! Children also have a lot of problems with snow on the top side of their skis. If you use the shoe paste trick, the problem is solved on both the most ordinary plastic skis as well as on the sport version. They will both slide perfectly.

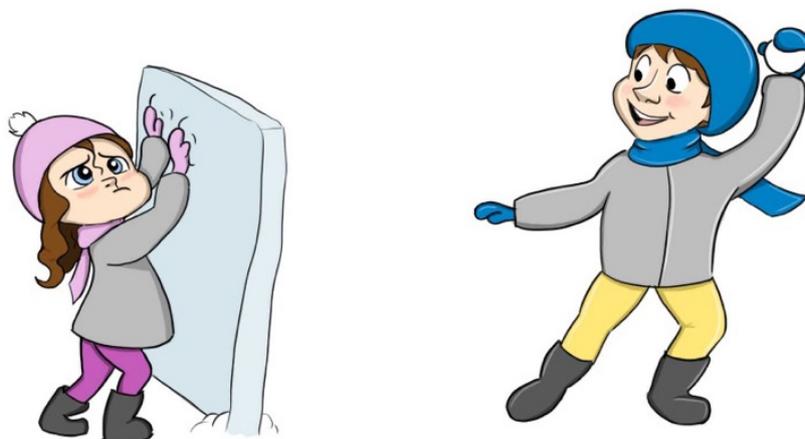
Some also choose a candle for the coating. But let me tell you a secret - in comparison to the shoe paste, candles do not stand a chance!

81. Snowball Fight

You need: a larger amount of snow and warm, waterproof gloves and lots of goodwill

Game preparation time: 20 minutes

Instructions: Children can prepare the snow walls that serve as defensive shields during snowball fighting in a few minutes. For the width of two shoulders and up to the neck's height, they should form walls out of snow. They make snowballs behind them, hide and snowball their "opponents" from there. To make the game more fun, they can also exchange shields while others try to hit them. But this is not a game to win! It is a challenge with exchanges. Being quick and ready is both important and fun.



82. Snowball Thrower

You need: up to 2.7 ft (80 cm) long board and a round log

Game preparation time: 20 minutes

Instructions: A snowball thrower is most easily imagined as a catapult or a classic swing with one side longer than the other. You make it out of a long board on which somewhere in the distance of 1 ft. (30 cm), you nail or screw a log or anything similar crosswise. The length and the site of screwing should be tested until it fits your child. The child should then place a snowball on the long part and press or strike the shorter part with his foot just right so that the ball flies quite far in an arch.

The snowballs can be smaller or larger, and as a challenge, they should try to tear down a tower of three or four snowballs with them. If they hit too much, the board knocks over, so they have to learn to launch the snowballs with feeling. Also, the more ingenious ones sometimes mark the places they have to hit with dashes for the projectile to fly the longest.



83. Snow Plow

You need: three boards, rope, a big water bottle, ski ointment

Game preparation time: 40 minutes

Instructions: Snow plow on cords is made with three boards, which you fasten in the shape of the letter A at the edge, not on the flat parts. The transverse board should be moved slightly forward, and the legs of the letter “A” should be extended by about 1 ft. (30 cm). Attach a string to the top of the plow so that the child can drag it around the yard and push away the snow.

Behind him, a freshly made path can be seen. If it is too light, attach a water bottle to it so that the plow will pick up the snow almost to the ground. Lubricate the lower part with ski ointment or shoe wax polish to push the snow away without it sticking to the plow.



84. Winter Cycling

You need: a bicycle and a synthetic cord at least 0.15 in. (4 mm) thick

Game preparation time: one hour

Instructions: A children's bike that otherwise does not have a rough enough profile on the tires for a child to ride safely in the snow can be modified for winter conditions by yourself. Just let a bit of air out of the inner tubes, then tie a synthetic cord to one of the spokes, which you then wrap around the rim at each spoke to form a snake pattern on the tire. You can also use shorter pieces of rope and tie them together with a “male knot.” After securing the final end of the string to the spoke, refill the tire with air to make it fairly firm and non-slippery. If the rear tire is still jerking, wrap it again to make the transverse cords even longer and not zigzag.



85. Backyard Ski Slope

You need: at least 3 ft of piled snow, edible paints or coloured adhesive tape, sticks or a broom handle, a string, and donuts

Game preparation time: 30 minutes

Instructions: A small ski slope or sledding ground that kids love to ride on can be made from piled snow and placed in the backyard. To make the challenge bigger, make a smaller pile on the slope to form a hump or deepen the surface.

The child will thus have the feeling that he is on a ski jump. Mark the beginning of the slope with edible paints or coloured adhesive tape and a stick or a broom handle. Before the finish line, provide additional entertainment and a reward: set a donut along the track, which the child must pick up while riding. If he does not drop it until the finish line, the donut is his.



86. Ski Seat

You need: A 1.7 ft. (50 cm) long piece of an old ski, a round log and a small board, which will serve as the seat

Game preparation time: 2 hours

Instructions: A ski seat is a sled consisting of a 1.7 ft (50 cm) long ski on which an upright log is fastened on the last half. We then screw a board on the log in the shape of the letter T. This gives us a seat and support, which we hold on to while riding down the slope. When catching balance, we also help ourselves with our feet, which glide on the snow on a steeper slope. Children can carry the snow seat or ride it on snow that has not been trampled, even if the base is stamped down with shoes. Making such a demanding project strongly connects the child with the person who helps him and raises his status in the child's eyes. Especially if that person is his mother.



87. Snow Trampling

You need: waterproof winter boots, skis or sleds, winter clothes and a thermos with warm sweet tea

Game preparation time: 5 minutes to dress warmly

Instructions: The snow trampling action and the first descents on a home or nearby hill, with the loud cheering of those present, are a real little holiday to which everyone is invited. The same is true for a family that starts trampling on its own, but to a lesser extent, of course. If there are more of you, bring warm tea

with lemon and honey, and a special event will immediately take place, while skiing, sledding and other games on a small hill will be an unforgettable memory for the child. You should also make a pile on the slope, on the one hand, to make an obstacle and on the other to get a jump for sledding and skiing. But remember safety. Therefore, do not overdo the pile's height or corners and do not turn the jump towards the sky. Except for skilled snowboarders, that is.

88. Sledding Games

You need: snow, a sled and imagination

Game preparation time: until you get cold

Instructions: How we use the sled depends on our ideas and imagination. They can be used as a chair, a table, as protection against snowballs, or we can assemble a snake from them with drawstrings. Not to mention their original purpose, the transportation of “demanding” cargo across the snow. The track and with it the joy will last longer if you make a supply of snow around it. It might thus happen that the grass nearby is already green while you still enjoy the snow! You can also organize exciting matches on a plane - for example, one child is sitting on the sled, and the other is pulling it.

Since the sled is always operated by the one sitting in the back, you can decide to work out problematic embarrassments with the child, especially a teenager, on the sledding ground. During the ride, the child will quickly realize that his mother is also "physically heavy." However, if the sled is to be guided by a child, he should be reminded to ride carefully. The child will remember a lesson with such a strong emotional basis for a lifetime, even when he first drives a car.



89. Snow Lights

You need: tealights that burn for about 3 hours, a long-necked lighter, chopsticks, slats, strings, a sewing meter, edible paints

Game preparation time: 2 hours

Instructions: Lights are always super romantic. Also, because we usually prepare them when it is still light outside, and we enjoy their radiance when darkness and cold come with the evening. It is fascinating for both adults and children if the fire is "alive." With tealights, therefore, form a pattern by placing them in a specific place in the snow. You can make lines, curves, circles and help yourself with slats, meters or strings. You stick the sticks in selected places, and when the children place the lights there, the sticks are pulled out of the snow.



For each light, make a small chimney out of the snow, which will glow in the flame and protect it from the wind. The chimneys can also be painted with edible paints. If you dip the candles just deep enough into the snow, you get a different lighting effect than if they stand on top of a freshly made snow pile or pyramid. In the igloo, make shelves for candles. The light of the flame at night also penetrates through the rather thick walls. Fire safety is in place, but children need to learn to behave and move around also near a live fire. Because there will come a time when they will have to master it.

90. Winter Picnic

You need: 7 oz. (200 g) of meat, vegetables, cheese and bread per adult, barbecue, charcoal or briquettes, brushwood, newsprint

Preparation time: 1 hour to prepare the fire

Instructions: We all love grilling meat, cheese and vegetables. We can thus hardly wait for spring and summer picnics when the scent drives us crazy. Then why not have a picnic in the winter as well? Children are thrilled with this experience, as many do not even imagine that it is possible.

And not because it would be particularly complicated, just because no one remembers to do it. You can opt for just heating bread and hot sandwiches, and they will be thrilled, despite the obligatory vegetables. With grilled specialties, warm your hands a little more, and if they help prepare the charcoal to make it burn, the day will be perfect.

91. High Tower

You need: solid foundation sized 1 x 1 ft. (30 x 30 cm), a greater amount of snow and prizes for the winners

Game preparation time: at least 20 minutes

Instructions: The goal of the competition in building a big snow tower is to find out who will manage to put up the highest. Determine in advance the time after which you will perform the measurements and determine the winner. The tower that has previously crumbled does not count, even if it was by far the highest. It has to hold out.

Also, the sled is only allowed to be used as a step or scaffolding and not as a support for the tower. It has to stand alone. Before measuring, check the foundations so that children do not cheat.

At the end of the competition, it is time to award the prizes, which should be new unforgettable experiences. For the top three, you can hide a treasure (a chocolate bar, a pocket knife for boys, a container of paint with which they can write on the snow, or a voucher for a home theatre with popcorn).



92. Snowy Yard Clean-up

You need: a shovel of suitable size

Game preparation time: 0 minutes

Instructions: Snow removal from our backyard is a real job for kids of all ages, from the moment they start walking and are stable. But the shovel must be greased and of a suitable size so that they can happily move snow from one place to the other. A five-year-old, for example, will do hard work already with a folding shovel that you keep in the car. What the child's answer to the question of what he was doing outside will be, therefore, depends on the size of the shovel. If it is a kid shovel, he will just say Dad or Mom shovelled the snow, and he was playing. However, if the shovel is big enough or even too big, he will declare that it was him who shovelled! Worked hard, that is.

93. Snow Tea

You need: a burner for camping or open fire, a pot, tea bags and fresh snow

Game preparation time: at least 20 minutes

Instructions: While making tea from melted snow, children learn how much energy and time is needed for the snow to melt and then for the water to boil, which is a great exercise in waiting and, therefore, a very important experience. Since there is also much less water than snow, the latter must be added at all times and care taken so that sand and other dirt are not added to the pot of snow. If you have an open fire, make sure the embers do not smoulder, but go out completely at the end.



94. Snow Crushing

You need: a shovel, a garden hoe or a hammer, safety or ski goggles

Game preparation time: 0 minutes

Instructions: The remnants of snow are usually quite dirty and so not pleasant to play with. If they remain in a pile, the melting will take weeks. Therefore, we look

forward to spring more if we help the snow to melt a bit. Because it has been frozen and thawed several times, it is quite hard, so the child, when crushing, can help himself with various tools. A simple hammer or garden hoe with a long handle is enough. By no means give him a scraper to scrape the ice off the ground! It has a handle with a sharp blade with which he can accidentally cut off his toes. Safety glasses also come in handy since ice or hard snow you hit with a tool crumbles, and sharp chips fly around.

The work is slow so that the child can do it several times a day or every day, little by little. As the snow melts all the time, he notices the results. Sometimes, however, things do not go according to plan, and the snow falls again. But without drama, we adapt to the new circumstance and continue where we left off. A great exercise in waiting for the impatient and stubborn.

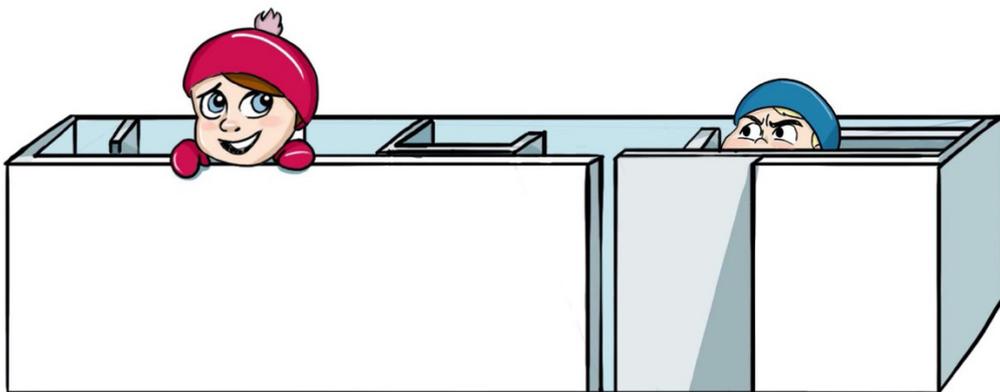
95. Labyrinth

You need: 2 to 20 in. (5 to 50 cm) deep snow, a ski pole

Game preparation time: 0 minutes

Instructions: The labyrinth in a suitably large and snowy area is made by adults using a ski pole to draw a path with no intersections and with an entrance and an exit that are close. Then we trample it together with the children, and when the maze is ready, we can play tag in it. Skipping or crossing between paths is not allowed; we can walk only on them.

Nicely to the corner, and only then can you turn, not hop on another path! If you make an effort, very large and complex labyrinths can be created. For example, on a lawn, the circle can be 65 ft (20 m) in diameter. But even on a simple winding path between obstacles such as benches, trees, bushes, shafts, it will be a lot of fun.



96. Snowy Stream

You need: a lot of southern snow that melts quickly, a piece of wood, Styrofoam

Game preparation time: 10 minutes to find the material

Instructions: A snow trough is made by a child when there is a great thaw. With the snow that is still available, he shapes low fences within which water from the melted snow flows. He can also make turns, set up obstacles.

He learns what flows and what does not. A piece of wood, Styrofoam or a boat are great vessels for this cold river so that the child can tests whether the voyage on it is successful or not.



97. Winter Memories

You need: freshly fallen snow and waterproof clothing

Game preparation time: 1 minute

Instructions: Record the somersaults and other activities on the snow with your phone. Also, take a few documentary photos so you can print them at home and put them in a frame and on the wall.

98. It's Written in the Snow

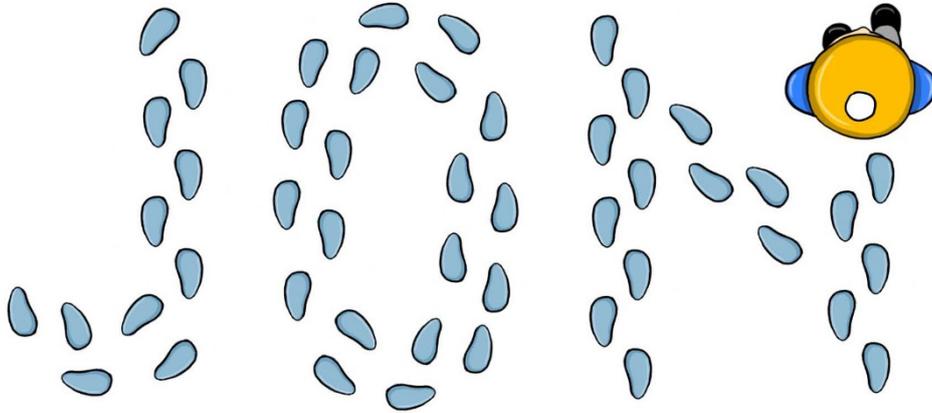
You need: snow and joy

Game preparation time: 10 minutes

Instructions: A child simply writes his name in the snow by walking. There is no need to leave the city and go to a stadium or a park, even if you live in an apartment building. He can make written or printed letters, capital or small letters; anything is possible.

The letter A, for example, should be just as big as the author. However, to save him any disappointment, we tell him that the inscription will probably not stay

long, as someone will step on it and puppies do not know how to read inscriptions. So step on something higher and take a photo of the child along with the name. Even if it's not yet spelled right.



99. Snow Angels

You need: freshly fallen snow and waterproof clothing

Game preparation time: 1 minute

Instructions: Angels in the snow are always a challenge for kids. They throw themselves on their backs in the snow and move their outstretched arms up and down. This leaves a trail behind them as if they had wings. To make the print more beautiful, we help them lie down and lift them from the image by the hands to be in an upright position again. If there are no additional traces, the print is more beautiful.



100. Snowcar

You need: a large pile of snow, a sled, a wheelbarrow or a large tarp, cords, pieces of cloth

Game preparation time: 2 hours

Instructions: For the shaping of a life-size car, you need a lot of snow. You can pile it with the help of a sled or a wheelbarrow or drag it on tarpaulins. Use whatever you have. Then start shaping your favorite model and paint it with edible paints in the end if you wish. You know - the tires with black, glass with blue... Instead of a car, you can also build a boat, in which you can also place a "mast." Do not forget the strings and flags.



Afterword

I truly hope that I have helped you carry the burden of a playful parent, for at least a bit. Your task remains to actively play with children and that you remain fully present and engaged during activities mentioned. However, »engaging in them« does not mean doing everything instead of your child.

Let them be independent, don't rush to solve every issue they encounter. And don't worry if they come back wet, dirty or with ripped clothes – all of this is just a part of childhood and child's play.

Please don't forget about safety, obedience and boundaries. Child's play is not the time to forget about boundaries and where everything is allowed. These activities are a great opportunity to consolidate behavioural patterns and motivate children for other things in their lives.

Wishing you all the best!

Warm regards,
Marko Juhant

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marko Juhant". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.



Strategic
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