



Sanskriti School
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Dear Parents,

Its summertime! This means lazy days filled with fun are here again! We are looking forward to a well-deserved break from early morning wake up calls, school bells ringing through the day.....the list is endless.

The thought of a vacation always brings a smile to our faces and fills us with joy!! For a few days we are happy doing nothing, but most of us—especially our little ones—sooner or later needsomething to do with their free time. To add a little zing to doing nothing during the holidays,here are a few suggestions for family activities that you might enjoy involving the children:



1. Children love playing with playdough and there are many learning activities that can be done using it. Encourage children to make different shapes of various sizes with it. For instance, they love making 'Rotis' with it!

- You can do sorting activities ... (Based on colour/shape/size)
- Counting activities....

Playdough Recipe - this recipe requires no cooking:children can easily make it-**2 cups flour**

1 cup salt

1 cupwater

1 tsp powder paint or a few drops of food colouring

Knead into dough.Storein airtight container. Add more flour if it gets runny. Keeps wellfor upto five weeks.



2. Treat your family to ice cream lollies andsave the sticks. Make patterns on paperusing the sticks (after washing them!) e.g-- standing lines, slanting lines, zigzag pattern.Create a photoframe using the sticks too.



3. Make your own ice-cube painting –pour water colours in ice-cube trays, stand ice-cream sticks in it and freeze them.Create 'cool' masterpieces on paper using colourful ice-cubes on sticksafter gently removing the cubes from thetray..!

4. Feel bag.....Put 10-12 things in a cloth bag. Ask your child to put his or her hand inside and feel and identify the object without looking at it.



5. Take the children on shopping trips for vegetable and fruit, and get them to learn the names of various products in Hindi and English.



6. Discover the pleasure of reading with your child. Read at least a story each day to your child. It is also a great bonding activity.

7. Treat your child to a small packet of Gems.....let him/her sort them according to colour, and then ask the child to count each set to see how many gems of each colour were in the packet. Now let them eat one and see how many left. Keep doing this till all the gems are over!



8. Take an empty one litre bottle and fill it with objects like pebbles, a key, safety pins, feathers, pieces of paper etc. You then add enough sand to fill the bottle about half way. Now ask the child the items you want them to find ... for example, the feather ... they can find them by rolling the '**Discovery bottle**' on a flat surface, or turning it until they find the feather.

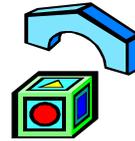
9. Counting Jars are a great way to build math skills. These again are very easy and inexpensive to make. You will need cleaned and empty small plastic food jars. You can fill the jars with everyday objects for the children to count, such as coloured paper clips, marbles, beads, buttons, dried beans etc.

10. A perfect activity for those Summer days when you and your child want to make the most of the weather is to practice drawing skills....Draw / doodle pictures on the sidewalk, verandah or backyard patio using **colourful chalk** to allow the children to show off their artistic prowess



11. Fun with a Clothesline and clothes-pins– This helps develop sequencing, matching and fine motor skills. Let your little ones help you clip washed clothes on the washing line when you put them out to dry. You can also arrange clothes to make patterns based on colours, shapes, size and much more! Use your imagination and have fun.





12. Block stamping is not only easy and fun, children love it. Use both big and small blocks and paint. Put paint on paper plates along with a block for each color of paint. The children dip the blocks in the paint and create their own patterns and designs.

13. **Sock Puppets**- Help your child to create sock puppets with old socks, rags, googly eyes wool, buttons etc and encourage them to create their own puppet theatre and stories using these sock puppets.



14. Enjoy Nature Walks with your little ones in many parks and gardens. While walking, collect fun things like odd-shaped twigs, leaves, flowers, feathers etc. Later set up a paint station with a large piece of paper and flat dishes filled with several colours of paint and then use your collection of findings as paintbrushes!.



15. Indoor games are great fun too. Games like *Simon Says*- can be played using words like: 'near', 'far', 'left', 'right', 'inside', 'outside', 'under', 'over', 'behind', 'in front of', and other similar words that indicate direction/position. These are all terms that your child will work with as part of vocabulary building.

16. **Happy Kitchen Helper**-The best way to encourage your child to be a happy kitchen helper is to allow him/her to be a part of the daily meal preparation.

Things they can do to help

- Washing fruits and vegetables.
- Squeezing lemons on salads or making nimbupani.
- Stirring.
- Peeling bananas, oranges.
- Removing seeds from water melon.
- Plucking mint or coriander leaves.
- Filling water bottles.
- Laying the table.



18. **Paper Weaving**- this is an interesting activity to develop the fine motor skills. Make a base/template by making slits on the paper. Now cut strips of paper and let children have fun weaving over and under alternate slots to complete the design. You can laminate these to make place mats too.



19. **Paper folding/ Origami-** This is an interesting activity that can be done indoors to keep children busy and aids in developing their fine motor skill and eye hand coordination. By making bold lines on paper and asking the children to fold along these lines they can create simple and fun designs with paper.



20. **Paper Puzzles -** Take a fun picture from an old newspaper or magazine and cut it into four or five pieces. Let your child glue it back to form the original picture.



Thank you and have fun with these activities. Some of these activities involve use of small objects that should be used under your supervision. Remember, none of these activities are compulsory, but having fun with the children during your holidays is necessary! Enjoy the summer break.



HAVE A GREAT SUMMER

(Class Teachers)

(Suruchi Lal)
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