ACTIVITIES AT HOME

No school doesn’t have to mean bored kids, lots of screen time, or just academic worksheets. Here are some fun ways to keep giving kids learning opportunities at home.

- String beads on a string or pipe cleaner for jewellery making; follow a pattern or just let the kids create
- Take a walk and explore, feel the bark on the trees, and build out of sticks or rocks
- Play “Simon Says” or “What Time is It Mr. Wolf” to practice listening to instructions and counting while getting some fresh air
- Push a pipe cleaner or spaghetti noodles into a colander/strainer
- Use a Styrofoam cup, raw spaghetti noodles, and small items like pieces of cereal or mini marshmallows to make a homemade version of KerPlunk—see who can pull out the most noodles!
- Tape paper (the bigger the piece, the better) to the wall, and draw with markers or crayons
- Build with Legos, blocks, or plastic food-storage containers and make towers or towns—use your imagination
- Peel stickers and make a card to send to someone. Walk or drive over to hand deliver the card!
- Make a pillow fort with couch cushions and blankets—use your imagination to play games and pretend
- Make letters and numbers out of items like coins or dry beans
- Use a balloon or inflate a zip-lock bag like a balloon, and play “Keep Up”
- Make characters out of toilet paper or paper towel rolls by using scissors to trim the end into “hair” and drawing faces and clothing on the tube
- Mimic animal walks: frogs, bunny, bear, crab, and make up your own!
- Make homemade cookies from a box, package, or recipe—practice rolling into balls or using cookie cutters
- Make letters, numbers, and shapes with popsicle sticks or pipe cleaners—more crafty kids can also glue down and paint
- Enjoy a family dinner with the kids picking the menu and helping to cook
- Create a fort or spaceship out of big cardboard boxes
- Stack cups—see how high you can pile them up or build a tower or castle
- Build a marble run by taping paper/plastic cups, toilet paper tubes, and pieces of cardboard together to create a maze you can roll a marble through
- Have the kids help you do tasks around the house, such as sweeping or wiping the table. Such tasks help kids work on motor skills but also help you!
- Fill an empty shoebox or large, plastic container with uncooked rice, dry beans, sand, raw macaroni noodles, shredded paper, or beads. The possibilities are endless! Find different textures that your kids can get their hands in and play with. You can add small items into the bins like magnetic letters, blocks, or toy cars. The kids can find a car of a specific colour or letters for their name