Do you have 15 minutes for a fun play break?

Here are 6 fun activities you can do together – and all you need is each other and stuff around your house!

**Family Play Breaks**

- **Play Break 1:** How far can you fly? (6+)
- **Play Break 2:** Build a bridge! (3+)
- **Play Break 3:** Build a City! (6+)
- **Play Break 4:** Marbles on the run! (3+)
- **Play Break 5:** Can you catch it? (6+)
- **Play Break 6:** Can you balance a lemon? (3+)

Did you know that one of the most important interactions you can have with your child is through play? When you play together, you feel happy while learning new and important skills!

Please visit our website to learn more about the value of play for development.
Play Break 1: How far can you fly?

Build a paper plane that can travel as far as possible!

How to do the activity?
1. Grab a piece of paper and discuss/think about what a good paper plane looks like and why.

2. Now build your awesome paper plane - alone or together – and watch it fly! Did it go as far as you hoped? Try a different design.

3. Why not make it even cooler by decorating it or even giving it a name!

4. Finish with a competition: whose plane goes the farthest? Who can do the best loop?

Ask your child some questions to help them think about what they did:
• Did it go as far as you hoped? Why/why not?
• Why can it fly at all?
• How could you change your design to make it fly even longer?

Was it too difficult?
Have pre-made paper planes that can be adjusted slightly and decorated.

Was it too easy?
Add some luggage to the paper plane (a coin, a LEGO® minifigure, a pen) and see which plane flies the farthest. Could you rebuild the plane to make it carry more?

Materials needed: Paper of different sizes, shapes and thicknesses.

Optional materials: Scissors, sticky tape, glue, paper clips
Play Break 2: Build a bridge!

This activity is about building bridges.

How to do the activity?
1. The task is simple: Build a bridge that can cross the river (the piece of paper).
2. It must go from one side to the other without touching the “water” i.e. there cannot be pillars in the water.
3. Plus the bridge has to be strong enough to hold a truck (find an object that represents a truck) and tall enough for a boat (find another object that represents a boat) to sail under.

Was it too difficult?
Make the river more narrow, the truck lighter, or the boat smaller.
Or even remove the river, the truck and the boat – and have fun together building a bridge.

Was it too easy?
Make the river wider, the truck heavier and the boat bigger.
You can also try and build the same bridge using less materials.

Materials needed: A piece of paper and different objects or a pile of LEGO® bricks.
Optional materials: Paper cups, toilet paper rolls, scissors, sticky tape, glue, and paper clips.

Play Agent Play Tip
Let the LEGO® Play Agents guide you through the activity in this video.

What will you do next?
Go here for more activities from the LEGO® Play Agents.

This activity is great for learning about balance and stability and train your problem-solving skills.
Play Break 3: Build a city

Create your neighbourhood or dream city and fill it with stories

How to do the activity?

1. Grab some paper/cardboard, scissors, markers, and tape - add some LEGO® bricks and paper cups if you have them. Tell the family you need some help building a city!

2. Start to design and build your first building. As you build, think about what it is used for? Who lives there? Why is it needed? Share your story as you build or after you finish each building!

3. Make it a mini-project over a couple days – adding more buildings each day - no need to rush.
   Please visit https://www.storycity.land/prompts for more prompts.

Was it too difficult?
Work with your child to co-create a building together.

Was it too easy?
Find a space at home where more buildings can be added over time, and watch the neighborhood turn into a city filled with stories. You can also help your children record the stories of the city; this could be in writing, in song, or in a video or audio recording.

Safety first: Discourage children from walking with scissors in their hands and always supervise when young children are using scissors.

Looking for inspiration?
Take a look at the buildings and stories other families have made on https://www.storycity.land/ or on social media using #storycity.

Materials needed: Everyday materials, scissors, markers, masking tape

Safety first: Discourage children from walking with scissors in their hands and always supervise when young children are using scissors.

This activity is great for training your creativity, imagination and your fine motor skills.
Play Break 4: Marbles on the run!

Get ready to build some awesome marble tracks

How to do the activity?
1. Grab some cardboard (e.g. toilet rolls), scissors and tape or blue tack. Oh, and something that rolls like a marble, super ball or even a small piece of paper rolled into a ball.

2. Try cutting the cardboard rolls in half and sticking them to a wall, door or window (so it looks like a drain pipe). Stick several on the wall, each below the other, so the marble rolls down and gets caught in the next one lower down.

3. Now, it’s time to test the marble track. Did the marble do what you thought it would? If not, keep improving it until you have a great marble run!

To help spark ideas for building and improving the track, ask questions like:
• How can we make the marble to travel faster – or slower?
• What happens if we use a lighter or heavier marble?

Was it too difficult?
You can make the cardboard rolls in advance to help the children get started. Or spend time decorating them to make the track the coolest marble track.

Was it too easy?
Make a marble track that runs around a corner! Or design the track so that it takes 15 or 30 seconds for the marble to travel from start to finish.

You can also build your marble track to make the first marble activate a second marble. Be warned, it’s super tricky but give it a go!

Safety first: Discourage children from walking with scissors in their hands and always supervise when young children are using scissors.

Materials needed: A marble, cardboard, paper rolls, scissors, masking tape

This activity is great for training your creativity and working together as a team.
Play Break 5: Can you catch it?

Catch, with a twist

How to do the activity?
1. Grab a buddy or even three and stand 3 m/9 ft apart and warm up by throwing a bean bag (or something similar like a small ball or a pair of socks) to each other. Throwing underarm works well!

2. Now introduce the following two rules. When the thrower shouts the number 1, the bean bag must be caught with your right hand, with your left foot out. And if they call out the number 2, the bean bag has to be caught with your left hand, with your right foot out.

3. Start throwing again calling out “ONE” or “TWO” just before you throw.

4. When you are comfortable with calling numbers 1 and 2 it’s time to add new rules: numbers 3 and 4. The number 3 means catching with the right hand with the right foot forward. Number 4 means left hand – left foot. Start throwing the bean bag again but watch your step as this can get very tricky!

5. Why not make it a competition? See how many perfect throws and catches you can make in a row without dropping the bean bag.

Was it too difficult?
Move closer to each other or wait a second between calling the number and throwing the bean bag.

Was it too easy?
Move farther away or give the catcher less time by calling out after throwing. Call out “GRASS” instead of green or “TOMATO” instead of red. Add more rules or change the rules!

Materials needed: Bean bag (or similar)

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What will you do next?
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This activity is great for training your concentration and quick reflexes.
Play Break 6: Can you balance a lemon?

Give your balance a test with this fun activity

Materials needed: A tablespoon and a lemon.

How to do the activity?

1. Find a good space around the house or outside and mark a starting and finish line.

2. Give everyone a spoon and a lemon. Out of lemons? Then use a potato, apple or something similar instead.

3. Get everyone to line up behind the starting line and put their the lemons on the end of the spoon.

4. All set? On Go! everyone races to the finish line. If you drop your lemon you can pick it up, but you have to go back to the starting line and start over again.

5. The winner is the first person to cross the finish line without dropping their lemon!

Was it too difficult?
Try using a bigger spoon or choose something smaller to balance on the spoon. You can also allow the participants to support the lemon with a finger.

Was it too easy?
Set up an obstacle course or make it more competitive by allowing participants to bump lightly into each other. If you dare, use a raw egg to balance on your spoon!

Play Agent Play Tip
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What will you do next?
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This activity is great for training your balance and hand eye coordination. It also trains your emotional skills.
Which activity will you do next?