



29 Warm Weather Family Activities

Beth Wegerbauer

The warm weather is finally upon us, so get ready to have some fun in the sun with these fun family activities. Don't forget the sunscreen!

1. Get outside! Play kickball or soccer. Play basketball. Play touch or flag football with a nerf ball. Play baseball or whiffle ball.
2. Play freeze tag, or if it's raining, stay inside and have a freeze dance contest.
3. Ride bikes.
4. Go on a hike or walk and take pictures of nature. Take a walk through your neighborhood or park and count how many different colored flowers you see. Explore your yard and look for insects.
5. Head to your local park or playground and hit the swings, slides, and sandbox.
6. Do you live near a pond or lake? Feed the ducks. Go fishing.
7. Get out your roller blades, scooters, bikes, or skateboards and get outside! Ride around your neighborhood, go to the park, or find a bike path nearby.
8. Pack a picnic. Let the kids choose the menu, help to pack the bag or basket, and pick the perfect spot. Remember to bring a blanket and some outdoor toys to enjoy afterwards!
9. Go fly a kite. The kids will love to hold the string and watch the kite soar.
10. Play with play-doh, either store bought or homemade (search the internet for easy recipes).
11. Blow bubbles, or give the kids a bubble bath!
12. Break out the sidewalk chalk.
13. Water play is always fun on sunny days. Use your backyard water table or baby pool, or fill a bucket with water and toys let the kids decide which will sink or float.
14. Finger paint.
15. Go out for ice cream, water ice, or popsicles. Or, grab some out of your freezer and enjoy the frozen treats on your front step or in your backyard.
16. Get the whole family together to do some spring cleaning outdoors! Walk through your neighborhood or visit your local park to collect any trash you see. It's a great way to teach your kids about the importance of putting trash where it belongs, as well as recycling.
17. Go to the library for storytime, or spend an hour helping your child select warm weather-themed books. Some good titles to start with are:
 - ☺ *Blue Makes a Kite*
 - ☺ *Mouse's First Spring*
 - ☺ *Amelia Bedelia Goes Camping*

- ☺ *By the Seashore*
- ☺ *Why Mosquitoes Buzz in People's Ears*
- ☺ *Seashells, Crabs, and Sea Stars*
- ☺ *Caterpillar Spring, Butterfly Summer*
- ☺ *Charlotte's Web.*

18. Write letters to or email out-of-town family members or friends. Take pictures of all of your fun activities, then email them or print and mail them!
19. Collect your old sheets, blankets, and towels and donate them to your local animal shelter or hospital.
20. Tackle your spring cleaning anytime! Clean out your basement, garage, bedrooms, closets, and playrooms. Have a garage sale or donate to local charities.
21. Have a great game of hide and seek.
22. Create a scavenger hunt.
23. Download and print free spring coloring pages to have a coloring party.
24. Make a mobile with flowers and twigs. Make and hang a homemade floral bouquet or wreath. Collect flowers, grass, and twigs to make a collage. Place flowers inside contact paper to make a pretty placemat.
25. Have fun making tie-dye T-shirts.
26. Build paper airplanes and have a flying contest.
27. Plant a garden in your yard, or if you don't have space, plant seeds in paper cups full of potting soil. Teach your kids how to plant, weed, and maintain their new plants and flowers.
28. Field trips lasting 1 day or even 1 afternoon can be lots of fun. Visit a state park, a museum, an arboretum, or walking trails together for some quality family time.
29. Volunteer. Contact your local town hall, chamber of commerce, or church to find out what opportunities are available. You could help at a homeless shelter, teach literacy to those who don't know how to read, walk and brush the animals at a local shelter, or serve meals at a soup kitchen.

Beth Wegerbauer is co-owner of Building Blocks Learning & Child Development Center and is the mom of 4 children who love family activities!