

50 Creative Ways to Have Fun Outside with Your Family

1. Walk across a fallen log. Walk your fingers across that same log as if you were a spider.
2. Become a rabbit and play hide and seek. Find a perfect hiding spot so a fox wouldn't be able to find you.
3. Build a fort for a mouse using twigs and leaves you find on the ground.
4. Use rocks or pebbles to create shapes and letters.
5. Listen to the birds and try to imitate their songs.
6. If the sun is shining, play shadow tag by gently stepping on each other's shadows.
7. Can you find these things in nature?
 - A pillow for a snake
 - A hat for a bird
 - A surfboard for a snail
 - A hairbrush for a squirrel
 - A blanket for a bee
8. Roll over a log and greet the cool critters that live there. Be sure to turn the log back over when you are done.
9. Create a dance or special movement to celebrate the Earth.
10. Throw leaves into the air like confetti. Watch them dance!
11. Find a tree that's the same size as you. Introduce yourself to the tree and give it a hug.
12. Play "I Spy" using all of the things around you in nature.
13. See how many nests you can find. Then build your own using materials that you find on the ground.
14. Collect as many acorn pieces as you can and leave them by a special tree for a squirrel.
15. Find the tiniest treasure you can by getting down on your hands and knees. Next, find the largest treasure around.
16. Pretend to be:
 - A snake
 - A butterfly
 - A coyote
 - An owl
 - A chipmunk
 - Your favorite animal
17. Shrink down to the size of an ant. See if you can find a hole in the ground to call home.
18. See how many baby plants you can tag gently in 20 seconds.
19. Set up an obstacle course for a grasshopper using supplies you find on the ground.
20. Starting as small as you can, pretend to be a tree growing from an acorn or a duckling hatching from an egg.
21. Find a sturdy leaf without too many holes. Launch it at the edge of a pond or build your own pond in your backyard!
22. Use your fingers or a digging stick to explore the ground beneath your feet.
23. Find some crawling bugs and have a bug race!
24. Blindfold a friend and let them explore a tree with their hands. Lead them away and see if they can find that tree again!
25. Make people tracks in some mud. Let someone try to follow your path.
26. Toss a pebble into water and watch the ripples grow!
27. Pretend your hand is a fish and wiggle it in the water.
28. Sniff something in nature. Tell someone what kind of food it smells like.
29. Sing your favorite song to a tree. Listen for some windy applause.
30. Walk down a path, but try to step on only the sunny spots.
31. Pretend your hand is a turtle and lay in the sun. When you start to feel warm, dip your hand in some water to cool off!
32. Try to hide from the wind behind bushes and trees. Then stand in a spot where the wind is blowing strongly.
33. Choose a trail to hike down very quietly. Along the way, listen for woodland sounds. Every time you hear a new sound, put a finger in the air.
34. Go on a Rainbow Walk. Hike down the trail and try to find something red. Then try to find something orange. Keep going all the way to purple.
35. Find letters or shapes in the branches of trees. Try to find all the letters in your name.
36. Find nature's musical instruments: sticks, rocks, leaves, dry grasses. Create an outdoor band!
37. Find some fluffy seeds like cattails, cottonwood, or milkweed. Gently shake the seeds into the air and try to catch them again.
38. Play Marco Polo using only animal sounds!
39. Pretend you are a baby bird learning how to fly. Practice hopping from branch to branch and flapping your new wings.
40. Give a name to three different plants that you like. Try and choose a name that would describe each plant to someone who has never seen it.
41. Lay on your back and look up at the clouds. What shapes do you see?
42. Paint a picture with mud as your paint and sticks as your brush.
43. Look for animal tracks and guess which animals made them. Follow them as far as you can.
44. Draw a picture of a nature discovery in a comfy place outside.
45. Go on a fungus hunt! Look in moist places like under leaves and logs. Be careful not to break them!
46. Find a long sturdy stick and limbo underneath it! How low can you go?
47. Find a good digging tool outside and dig a path for a river. Pour water starting from uphill and watch it flow!
48. Find a leaf that you think is really neat. Hold it up to the bright sky and see the hidden patterns and colors.
49. Play animal charades. Choose an animal you have seen today or your favorite animal and move and make sounds like that animal. See if others can guess what you are.
50. Take a hike.

