

ACTIVITY SUGGESTIONS/ICE BREAKERS

While it may seem that teens just want to "hang" most are hungry for activity (which is why many get involved in the wrong kinds of activity). Most teens love creating stuff so crafts are a good standby; things they can display in their rooms are especially popular. Here are a few weekly activity suggestions along with a list of miscellaneous activities:

52 ideas, one for each week of the year

1. Set your mentoring goals together
2. Tackle some homework.
3. Make dinner together.
4. Go out for dinner together.
5. Make popcorn and talk.
6. Go to a movie.
7. Go to a concert.
8. Shoot some hoops.
9. Go to the library together.
10. Just hang out.
11. Figure out how to program your VCR.
12. Learn about pop music.
13. Talk about life.
14. Give a tour of your current job.
15. Talk about your very first job.
16. Talk about planning a career.
17. Plan a career.
18. Get together with friends from work.
19. Take tours of friends' jobs.
20. Visit a local technical school.
21. Visit a community college.
22. Talk about college.
23. Have your friends talk about college.
24. Sit in on some evening classes.
25. Work on applications together.
26. Explore financial aid options.
27. Work on a resume.
28. Talk about dressing for success.
29. Do a pretend job interview.
30. Talk about how to look for a job.
31. Talk about where to find a job.
32. Find a summer job.
33. Set up a work internship.
34. Talk about networking.
35. Talk about what it takes to get ahead.
36. Talk about health insurance.
37. Talk about taxes.
38. Talk about balancing work and life.
39. Talk about balancing a checkbook.
40. Talk about balancing a budget.
41. Talk about living with one's means.
42. Talk about credit cards.
43. Go bargain hunting.
44. Plan a week's worth of meals.
45. Do a week's grocery shopping together.
46. Go holiday shopping.
47. Write thank-you notes.
48. Go to a house of worship.
49. Celebrate a friend's religious holiday.
50. Talk about relationships.
51. Talk about personal values.
52. Talk about the future.

(More activities beginning on next page)

MISCELLANEOUS ACTIVITIES

- Play board games. Afterwards, have a snack.
- Play sports. Make sure you can still talk while you are at it. Volleyball and miniature golf are great ideas.
- Go to a sporting event. It's better than a movie because you can still see each other and have a conversation. Pick something inexpensive that will interest you both.
- Do a service project. You'll be surprised how fun work can be when you do it together for a good cause.
- Visit a free museum or historical site
- Go to the zoo (out of town trips are considered on a case-by-case basis only and must be preapproved prior to any sort of discussion)
- Have a poetry evening. Bring your favorite snacks and verses, read and discuss the poetry
- Go on a change "date". You both collect all the spare change you can find and put it together. This will be the only money spent on dinner, entertainment, games, etc.. You'd be surprised how fun it is to "budget" your money. The object is to not spend any more than you have!
- Go to the airport and watch the planes fly in and out
- Have a letter of the alphabet evening. Pick one letter and then everything you do on the evening should somehow correspond with that letter. Example a "P" evening may involve "pizza" or going to the "park". Be creative.
- Pick up a video and snacks.
- Go chalking. Go chalk a neighbor or friends driveway. Make tracings of your feet, write "you've been chalked!" cute sayings, etc. (It washes off very easily with the hose)
- Go bowling.
- Have lip-syncs and make music videos
- Make "hobo dinners" outside in a fire pit.
- Go for a bike ride. Not only will you have fun, but you will get exercise.
- Go for a horse ride and take pictures of the sunset. Or, go earlier in the day and pack a lunch.
- Take your dog out and play fetch.

- Sculpt play dough
- Try painting
- Go ice skating party or rollerblading
- Occasionally volunteer at the local animal shelter to walk dogs waiting for adoption -
- Help collect food or coats or toys for the needy.
- Help the elderly decorate their house for Christmas
- Go caroling
- Plant a vegetable garden
- Participate in walk-a-thons to raise money for various causes
- Seasonal activities (pumpkin carving, Christmas cards to elderly, etc)
- Conversation starters (The Book of Questions, The Book of IF, etc.)
- Review college plans, help with scholarship applications
- Workout at a gym (if you have a membership or trial membership)
- Start a collection, work on it together
- Listen to music
- Practice web design if you're web literate
- Review student activities they could be involved in at school, encourage their participation