



Family Fun Activities

FCPS "Learning Unplugged" is a series of activities that promote learning at home *without the use of electronics*.

GAMES	
Charades	Use picture flashcards for younger players. Instead of using hand gestures to describe the category, simply say what it is (i.e. an animal, an object, a character, etc.). Remind children that pantomime means to describe with gestures and not words. Set a timer allowing a certain amount of time to describe the idea and when the time is up, the turn goes to the next team.
Go Fish	Deal playing cards to players. Sort your cards and discard any pairs. (If a player has three of a kind, he discards two of the cards and keeps the third). The dealer then offers his hand, face down, to the player on his left. That player randomly takes one card from the dealer. If the card matches the one he already has in his hand, he puts the pair down. If not, he keeps it. Play proceeds clockwise, so the player to the left of the dealer then offers his hand, face down, to the player on his left. This cycle repeats until there are no more pairs.
Hokey-Pokey	Dance performed in a circle, or a song describing the simple movements of the dance. Everybody forms a circle. Example: ♪ <i>Put your left foot in, your left foot out, your left foot in and shake it all about, You do the hokey pokey and turn yourself around. That's what it's all about!</i> ♪
Hot Potato	Players gather in a circle and toss a small object such as a beanbag or even a real potato to each other while music plays. The player who is holding the object when the music stops is eliminated.
How Do You Doo	Similar to name that tune, except you take turns seeing how many songs you can get your team to guess in 5 minutes by singing only the word "doo" to the tune of the song. Supplies: pencil, paper, and stopwatch.
I Spy	One person spies something and keeps it a secret. The item must be something that all the other players can see, player describe by color, size etc.
Words within a Word	Take a word like "weather". See how many words you can make using only letters in the word. Example: we, at the her, wet, hat, wart art, there 1 point for 3 letter word, 2 points for 4 letter, 5 or more letter 3 points
Word Chain	Choose a topic, such as food. The first person says a word, the second person says that word plus his own, the third person says the first two words plus their own, and so forth, continue until someone can no longer remember the word chain.
Rhythm Clapping Games	1. Hit your upper chest with a fist or open palm. <i>Boom!</i> 2. Snap with your right hand. <i>Snap!</i> 3. Clap your hands together. <i>Clap!</i> Then do it double time

War	Deal playing cards to players. Players simultaneously turn over their top card. The higher card wins the pair; the winning player takes both cards and puts them at the bottom of their face-down pile. (Ace is high card; 2 is low card.)
Would You Rather	In the event of a tie, the players have a "war." Each player places three cards face down in the middle of the table and then turns a fourth card face up. The player with the higher of these cards takes all 10 cards which are now in the middle. If these two cards are also a tie, additional cards are turned face-up, one at a time, until one player wins; that player takes the entire set of cards.
Zip-Zap-Zop	The more creative you are, the more fun this game can be. For this game, the players move to one side of the room or another depending on what they prefer given two options. For example, the first set of options might be wearing shoes or going barefoot. The person who is "it" would announce, "Would you rather wear shoes or go barefoot?" If your answer is you prefer to wear shoes, you would go to the left, but if you would rather be barefoot, you would go to the right. Keep track of the answers to see who has the most in common with each other.

ACTIVITIES

Family Talent Show	Showcase family members' unusual talents.
Host Family Show and Tell	Show off your favorite things and explain why it is your favorite.
Family Cookbook	Share family favorite recipes and secret ingredients.
Family Fort	Camp inside the house or build a cool structure with blankets, tents or any other creative material, tell scary or funny stories inside.
Coloring/Drawing Competition	Choose a theme and go for it. Choose most innovative, most creative, most colorful etc.
Fashion Show	Place random clothes/ accessories in a laundry basket. Design/coordinate your outfit for your runway show.
Paper Airplane Competition	Construct paper planes and see how far they go.
Kitchen Band	Create a band using spoons, pots and pans etc.
Cards/Postcards	Decorate and make cards for family and friends.