

40

WAYS TO ADD MORE
PLAY INTO EVERYDAY





#1

DRESSING CONTEST

Even the smallest and simplest daily tasks can be made into a game. Create a contest for who can get dressed the fastest & award the winner each week with extra special time with mom or dad.



40

WAYS TO ADD MORE
PLAY INTO EVERYDAY





#2

MORNING PLAYLIST

Chase away the “sleepies” by playing ‘Gymboree Play Radio’ on Pandora® to get your kids excited to pop and bop out of bed in the morning.



40

WAYS TO ADD MORE
PLAY INTO EVERYDAY





#3

HAIR PLAY

Make bath time a treat by dreaming up a pretend 'Car Wash' that helps wash and dry your kids' hair. Follow up the Car Wash by pampering your little one with a warm towel or robe fresh from the dryer to explore wet & dry, and warm & cold.



40

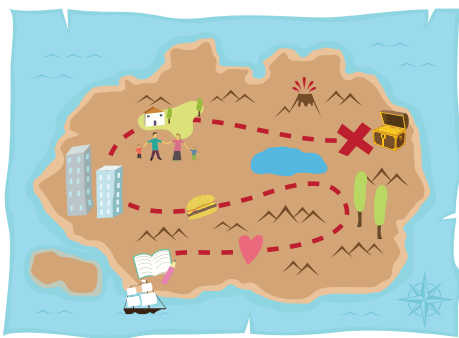
WAYS TO ADD MORE
PLAY INTO EVERYDAY



#4

ADVENTURE WALKS

Create adventure-filled walks by making treasure maps to get from school to home... wander through a natural setting and point out the sights, sounds and colors—integrating even a few minutes of nature on a busy day helps spark creativity and imagination.



40

WAYS TO ADD MORE
PLAY INTO EVERYDAY





#5

COOK TOGETHER

Cook something together in the kitchen that involves hands-on play to give your little ones a chance to experiment with their sense of touch. Mix, stir and roll out some bread or cookie dough—they'll love making fun sculpture masterpieces they can eat!





40

WAYS TO ADD MORE
PLAY INTO EVERYDAY





#6

FAMILY RESTAURANT

Create your own family's restaurant at dinner time. Have the kids come up with the name, escort you to the table, prepare and read you the 'menu', take your food orders, and watch their imaginations and best manners—come alive.



40

WAYS TO ADD MORE
PLAY INTO EVERYDAY



#7





#7

SUPER POWERS DINNER

Designate one night of the week as a “super powers” dinner. Encourage your kids to join you in their “hero” attire and to bring their “super power” to the table. Allow kids to wear whatever their hearts desire – home-made costumes from found materials are extra awesome, now let the super storytelling begin!





40

WAYS TO ADD MORE
PLAY INTO EVERYDAY

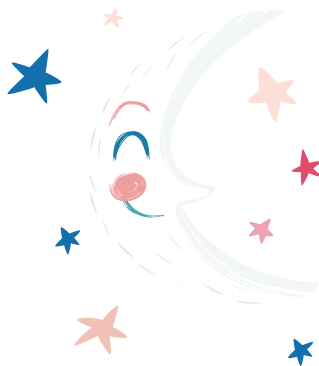




#8

STAR GAZE

Remind your kids that they're shining stars and go outside at night to star gaze, pick out and name their star, make a wish, and play and dream under the moon.



40

WAYS TO ADD MORE
PLAY INTO EVERYDAY





NIGHTTIME YOGA

Unwind after a long day with some kid-friendly, nighttime yoga poses:

'Greet the Moon': similar to Sun Salutation, have your child stretch their arms overhead reaching for their wishing star and then stretch into forward fold

'Froggy Pose': bend with knee's apart as you touch the ground

'Happy Baby': have your child lay on their back, grab their big toes and rock back and forth

'Wishing Star': say a final good night to the earth, the stars, the sun and the moon



40

WAYS TO ADD MORE
PLAY INTO EVERYDAY



#10

BACKYARD CAMPGROUND

Transform your backyard to a campground:
Have a backyard campout complete with s'mores,
campfire songs and tales, or set up a tent or fort
indoors for a special overnight adventure.



40

WAYS TO ADD MORE
PLAY INTO EVERYDAY



#11

STORYBOOK PLAY

Get physical, and act out a storybook by playing the characters, adding sound effects, movements and guesses on what happens next.





40

WAYS TO ADD MORE
PLAY INTO EVERYDAY



#12

JAM SESSION

Turn over the pots & pans, and transform your kitchen into a garage band. Jam On!





40

WAYS TO ADD MORE
PLAY INTO EVERYDAY



#13





#13

BAKE COOKIES

Bake cookies and deliver them to the local fire or police station. Make sure to set aside a few for you to enjoy together with your little one!





40

WAYS TO ADD MORE
PLAY INTO EVERYDAY



#14





#14

DANCE PARTY

Have a living room or kitchen spontaneous dance party. Turn up that music loud and let your kids' inner-groove out. Add some color and extra fun with vibrant movement scarves to up the dance party ante!





40

WAYS TO ADD MORE
PLAY INTO EVERYDAY



#15





#15

EXPLORE THE SENSES

Set up a sensory bin to explore and have your child close their eyes while they describe and guess what they're touching. It'll get their mind, imagination and creativity working together.





40

WAYS TO ADD MORE
PLAY INTO EVERYDAY



#16





#16

SILLY SELFIES

Take silly selfies or have funny face competitions - laughing with your child is one of the happiest and easiest ways to bond.





40

WAYS TO ADD MORE
PLAY INTO EVERYDAY



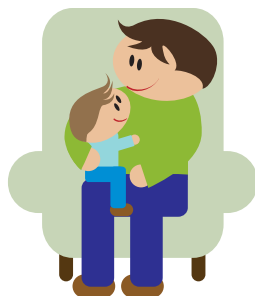
#17



#17

BOUNCE BOP

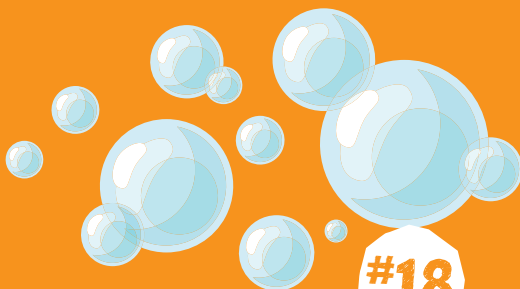
Pop your child on your lap as you bounce them to the steady beat of a favorite song.





40

WAYS TO ADD MORE
PLAY INTO EVERYDAY



#18

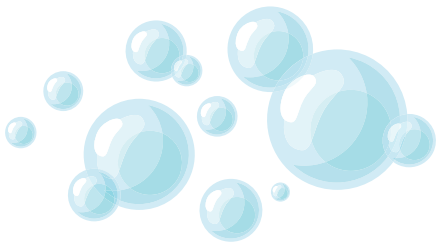




#18

BUBBLE FUN

Catch a bubble and capture a memory: Dim your lights and let your little one catch Bubble Oodles using a flash light as a bubble catcher. It's a great group game and creates a dazzling visual effect!





40

WAYS TO ADD MORE
PLAY INTO EVERYDAY



#19

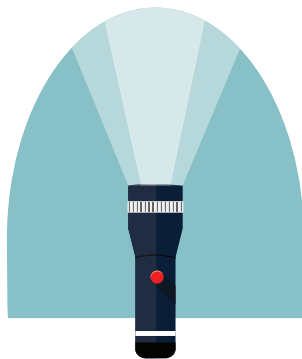




#19

TUNNELS

Engage in tunnel play at home by lining up chairs and draping with a sheet. Shine a flashlight into the 'cave' before entering!



40

WAYS TO ADD MORE
PLAY INTO EVERYDAY



#20



#20

ADVENTURE BOOSTS

Adventure Boosting Play Tips

Create a **stepping stones course** with pillows

Make up your **own language**

Go **'hallway' bowling** with bottles from the recycling bin

Turn your sofa into a plane, take your child on **airplane ride**





40

WAYS TO ADD MORE
PLAY INTO EVERYDAY



#21





#21

FEET PAINTING

Instead of finger painting, flip it upside down and try feet painting with your child. Lay down a white drop cloth and have fun stomping around with your colorful toes!



40

WAYS TO ADD MORE
PLAY INTO EVERYDAY





#22

FUN WITH SCARVES

Tie scarves together and grab hold to make a friendship train with play date buddies. Let each child take turns leading the choo-choo course.





40

WAYS TO ADD MORE
PLAY INTO EVERYDAY



#23





#23

GYMBOREE PLAY & MUSIC TOYS

Fill your suitcase with Gymboree Play & Music toys that teach and travel well:

Bubble Oodles in travel shampoo bottles

Deflateable Gymboree Play & Music beach balls
make game time portable

Airshapes make great pool and beach toys

The **Gymbo finger puppet** fits perfectly in your travel tote..
so go ahead, let Gymbo photobomb your family vacation!





40

WAYS TO ADD MORE
PLAY INTO EVERYDAY





#24

BIRD TREATS

Make love bird treats and watch for birds!
You'll Need:

Bowl, spoon and string

Heart shaped ice tray or baking pan

Wild bird seed

Suet or coconut oil

Combine & press seed & oil mixture into
mold placing string in center. Let chill,
then hang and watch for birds.



40

WAYS TO ADD MORE
PLAY INTO EVERYDAY





#25

SCOOP AND DUMP

Scoop and dump is great for fine motor and helping children learn about capacity. Fill a bin with dried rice, cups and spoons and let the fun begin!





40

WAYS TO ADD MORE
PLAY INTO EVERYDAY



#26





#26

INSTA-PUPPET

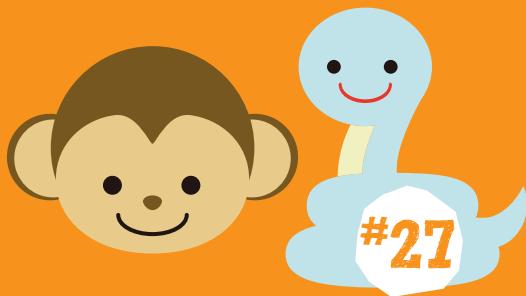
Simply transform your hand into a fun, but firm puppet character who can swoop in and intervene whenever she's called upon.





40

WAYS TO ADD MORE
PLAY INTO EVERYDAY





#27

ANIMAL EXPLORATION

Explore animals through playful movements:

Try singing **I'm a Little Monkey**, to
the tune of I'm a Little Teapot.

"I'm a little monkey in the tree – swinging by my tail so
merrily- I can leap and fly from tree to tree- then hang from
the bars at Gymboree!"

Stomp & roar like a **Dinosaur**

Flutterby little **Butterfly**

Crawl, climb and purr like a **Cat**

Belly-slither like a **Ssssnake!**





40

WAYS TO ADD MORE
PLAY INTO EVERYDAY



#28



#28

RACING

Have a race! Chase your kids up the hill, to the playground, on your bikes, to your car or wherever. Watch your child run like the wind to try to win.





40

WAYS TO ADD MORE
PLAY INTO EVERYDAY



#29





#29

PIGGY-BACK

Give your child a piggy-back ride or put them on your shoulders- they'll love the new perspective.





40

WAYS TO ADD MORE
PLAY INTO EVERYDAY





#30

SEASONAL FUN

Whatever the season, find your fun.

Summer: Turn the tub into a tactile table!
Blow some bubbles, wash toys in the sink

Spring: Make art from gathered blossoms, twigs and leaves
by painting and attaching them to bright colored paper

Winter: Add washable paint and glitter to ice-cube trays.
Place paper inside a cookie sheet and invite your child to
swirl melting ice cubes across paper for icy art

Fall: Fill a basket of different textured scarves and gently
pour over your child as you sing to the tune of brother john
“leaves are falling 2x, all around 2x, gently they are falling
2x, to the ground 2x”



40

WAYS TO ADD MORE
PLAY INTO EVERYDAY



#31

ERRAND FUN

Make running errands more fun for your kids by playing I-spy around town or turning the grocery shopping cart into a racecar.



40

WAYS TO ADD MORE
PLAY INTO EVERYDAY



#32

GARDENING

Show your Green Thumb, put your hands in the dirt and garden with your kids – plant a window herb garden, pick flowers or get rid of weeds.





40

WAYS TO ADD MORE
PLAY INTO EVERYDAY



#33





#33

PERSONAL STYLIST

Let your kids play barber or beauty shop with you - brush your hair, paint your nails, do your makeup- they'll love acting like your personal stylist for the day.





40

WAYS TO ADD MORE
PLAY INTO EVERYDAY



#34

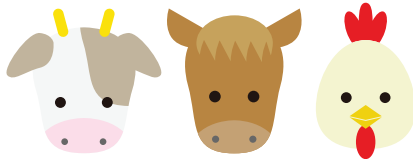




#34

ANIMAL FARM

Get on all fours and pretend you're an animal on the farm or in the wild - be a horse and let your child ride on your back, don't forget to neigh.





40

WAYS TO ADD MORE
PLAY INTO EVERYDAY





#35

HIDE & SEEK

Play hide & seek and let your child help
with counting and finding!





40

WAYS TO ADD MORE
PLAY INTO EVERYDAY



#36





#36

BOOGIE TOWN

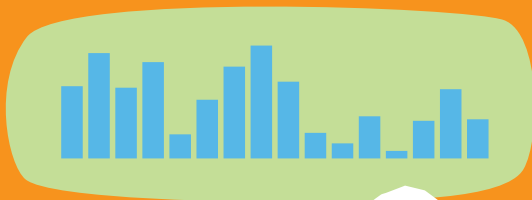
Gymbo-dance whenever you can: rock side to side,
twist, touch the ground and boogie on down.





40

WAYS TO ADD MORE
PLAY INTO EVERYDAY



#37

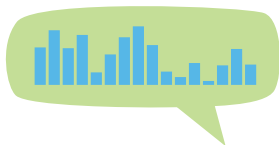




#37

RHYMING

Start a rhyming game in daily conversations.
Tap along and create a steady beat as you
rhyme so your child can learn the patterns
and musical meter of the songs!





40

WAYS TO ADD MORE
PLAY INTO EVERYDAY





#38

COLOR HOP

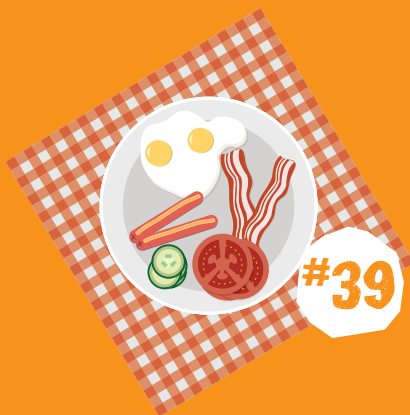
Play “color hop” by placing pieces of construction paper on the ground. Shout-out the color you hop on as you “1, 2, 3...Hop”!





40

WAYS TO ADD MORE
PLAY INTO EVERYDAY

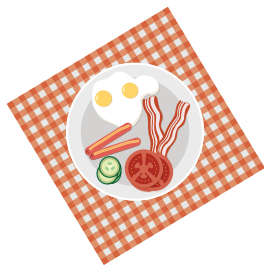




#39

MEAL SWITCH-UP

Make breakfast for dinner and serve it up as a play picnic in your living room. Sit atop a blanket and eat then play a board game or blow bubbles oodles for dessert.





40

WAYS TO ADD MORE
PLAY INTO EVERYDAY



#40





#40

STORY TIME

Ask your kid to tell you a story about the best part of their day, it will teach them gratitude and will, no doubt, give you a few laughs!

