

SUMMER ISN'T OVER YET

100 Things To Do Before School Starts

The best returns aren't always financial. Here are 100 ways to fill the last stretch of summer with the kids and grandkids. Print it, stick it on the fridge, and start checking boxes.



PLAN. GROW. INSURE TO PROTECT.

Backyard Basics

- ☐ 1 Build a fort out of blankets and chairs
- ☐ 2 Run through a sprinkler with your clothes on
- ☐ 3 Blow dandelion seeds into the wind
- ☐ 4 Set up an obstacle course in the yard
- ☐ 5 Have a water balloon battle
- ☐ 6 Draw a chalk mural on the driveway
- ☐ 7 Plant a seed and water it every day
- ☐ 8 Climb a tree higher than last year
- ☐ 9 Camp out in the backyard
- ☐ 10 Run a lemonade stand and keep the books

Water Days

- ☐ 11 Skip a rock and count the hops
- ☐ 12 Wade barefoot up a creek
- ☐ 13 Float a homemade leaf boat downstream
- ☐ 14 Catch a crawdad, then let it go
- ☐ 15 Learn a proper cannonball
- ☐ 16 Paddle a canoe or kayak
- ☐ 17 Tube down a river
- ☐ 18 Splash in every puddle after a storm
- ☐ 19 Catch a fish and cook it that night
- ☐ 20 Soak in a natural hot spring

Trails & Mountains

- ☐ 21 Hike a trail nobody in the family has done
- ☐ 22 Stand on top of a fourteener
- ☐ 23 Find animal tracks and name the animal
- ☐ 24 Spot a columbine growing wild
- ☐ 25 Hear an elk bugle
- ☐ 26 Pick a walking stick and keep it all summer
- ☐ 27 Coast down a hill you had to push up
- ☐ 28 Turn over a rock and see who lives there
- ☐ 29 Visit a state park you have never seen
- ☐ 30 Walk a fallen log like a tightrope

After Dark

- ☐ 31 Stay up for a meteor shower
- ☐ 32 Find the Big Dipper, then the North Star
- ☐ 33 Sleep outside with no tent
- ☐ 34 Roast marshmallows, burn one on purpose
- ☐ 35 Tell a ghost story around a fire
- ☐ 36 Watch the bats come out at dusk
- ☐ 37 Howl at a full moon
- ☐ 38 Play flashlight tag
- ☐ 39 Sit through a whole sunrise
- ☐ 40 Learn one constellation by heart

Rainy Day Ideas

- ☐ 41 Read a book cover to cover in one sitting
- ☐ 42 Build the tallest tower the recycling bin allows
- ☐ 43 Learn a card game from an adult
- ☐ 44 Write and mail a real letter to a grandparent
- ☐ 45 Finish a puzzle as a family
- ☐ 46 Draw a comic strip about your summer
- ☐ 47 Learn a magic trick, perform it at dinner
- ☐ 48 Build a cardboard box fort with rooms
- ☐ 49 Record a grandparent telling one old story
- ☐ 50 Draw your neighborhood from memory

Make Something

- ☐ 51 Whittle a stick into something
- ☐ 52 Press wildflowers inside a heavy book
- ☐ 53 Make a pinecone bird feeder
- ☐ 54 Build a birdhouse that actually gets used
- ☐ 55 Make an instrument out of garage junk
- ☐ 56 Do a crayon rubbing of tree bark
- ☐ 57 Build a bike jump and test it
- ☐ 58 Hang a wind chime made of found objects
- ☐ 59 Tie a knot you had to look up
- ☐ 60 Fly a paper airplane past the fence

In The Kitchen

- ☐ 61 Crank out homemade ice cream
- ☐ 62 Brew sun tea on the porch
- ☐ 63 Cook one whole meal for the family
- ☐ 64 Bake bread from scratch
- ☐ 65 Freeze popsicles made from real fruit
- ☐ 66 Grill something over an open fire
- ☐ 67 Grow, pick, and eat your own tomato
- ☐ 68 Try something new from a farmers market
- ☐ 69 Make s'mores three different ways
- ☐ 70 Cook breakfast for someone still asleep

Give It Away

- ☐ 71 Mow a neighbor's lawn without being asked
- ☐ 72 Donate the toys you have outgrown
- ☐ 73 Write a thank you note to a teacher or coach
- ☐ 74 Pick up trash on a trail you love
- ☐ 75 Bake something and deliver it next door
- ☐ 76 Volunteer somewhere for an afternoon
- ☐ 77 Leave a kind note for a stranger to find
- ☐ 78 Teach a younger kid something you are good at
- ☐ 79 Set aside part of your allowance for a cause
- ☐ 80 Thank a first responder in person

Colorado Bucket List

- ☐ 81 Ride an alpine slide
- ☐ 82 Drive a mountain pass and stop at the top
- ☐ 83 Stand on the Continental Divide
- ☐ 84 Walk through a ghost town
- ☐ 85 Pan for gold
- ☐ 86 Ride a scenic railroad
- ☐ 87 Put your hand in a dinosaur track
- ☐ 88 Watch a small town rodeo
- ☐ 89 Explore a cave
- ☐ 90 Catch the first aspens turning gold

Together

- ☐ 91 Teach a parent something they can't do
- ☐ 92 Take the same photo in June and August
- ☐ 93 Hold a game night with zero screens
- ☐ 94 Set a goal and finish it before school
- ☐ 95 Bury a time capsule, pick the year to dig
- ☐ 96 Learn a family story from before you were born
- ☐ 97 Take a drive with no destination
- ☐ 98 Eat dinner outside as often as you can
- ☐ 99 Start a tradition nobody has done before
- ☐ 100 Write the list for next summer

The compounding you can't put on a statement.

Money buys options. Time with the people you love is what you buy them for.
Here's to a strong finish to the summer.

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