

# CONVERSATION STARTERS



<b>What would you like to be when you grow up?</b>	<b>What is your favorite food?</b>	<b>What is your favorite color?</b>
<b>What is your favorite TV show?</b>	<b>What is your favorite book?</b>	<b>If you had three wishes, what would they be?</b>
<b>Can you remember a time where you laughed so hard you snorted?</b>	<b>What is the best way to eat an Oreo?</b>	<b>Do you normally do chores and homework right away or do you wait until the last minute?</b>
<b>If you won the lottery, what would you do with it?</b>	<b>Would you rather take a picture or be in the picture?</b>	<b>If you could be any animal, what would you be?</b>
<b>If you could do one thing, everyday, for the rest of your life, what would it be?</b>	<b>What's the best smell you've ever smelled?</b>	<b>Do you think you could go an entire day without talking?</b>
<b>What's your favorite joke?</b>	<b>When was the last time you helped someone without being asked?</b>	<b>If you became President of the United States, what would you do?</b>
<b>What is the one thing you don't know how to do, but you wish you did?</b>	<b>If you could trade places with anyone for a day, who would it be?</b>	<b>When was the last time you gave someone a high-five?</b>

# HOW TO BUDGET MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

## BUDGET DO'S

<b>Movies in the Park</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Sledding for Free</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Visit a Museum</b>	<b>\$10</b>
<b>BBBS Free Arts Day</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**TOTAL: \$10**

## BUDGET DON'TS

<b>Movies &amp; Popcorn</b>	<b>\$25</b>
<b>Learn how to Ski</b>	<b>\$80</b>
<b>Visit a Museum</b>	<b>\$50</b>
<b>Pottery Painting</b>	<b>\$40</b>

**TOTAL: \$195**

## THE FIVE DO'S AND DON'TS FOR BUDGETING

### DO:

1. Make a monthly activity budget.
2. Utilize Big Brothers Big Sister monthly activities and discount list.
3. Connect with community resources.
4. Discuss high cost activities with each other to determine who will pay.
5. Talk to your Match Engagement Coordinator if you need ideas or resources.

### DON'TS:

1. Wait until the last minute to plan activities.
2. Forget to ask for parent/guardian input when it comes to ideas.
3. Overlook the importance of spending time in your community.
4. Be quiet if you feel uncomfortable or unable to pay for an activity.
5. Leave your Little out.

## THINGS TO DO WITH YOUR LITTLE | COMMUNITY BASED PROGRAM

### Music/Arts/Crafts

- Draw or paint pictures of one another.
- Attend a local art/pottery class.
- Learn to knit or crochet with your Little.
- Go to local art fairs, festivals, and events.
- Make a collage on friendship or of your outings together.
- Make your own t-shirts (markers, tie-dye, paint).
- Write and send letters in the mail to one another or get pen pals.
- Make your own cards for holidays, birthdays, or other special occasions for friends and relatives.
- Color or draw together. (You are never too old to color.)
- Paint pottery.
- Visit a local antique shop.
- Make jewelry together.
- Listen to play music together.
- Go Christmas caroling.
- Create your own song.
- Go to a concert.
- See a play.
- Sing together or karaoke.

### Outdoor/Nature

- Go to a local park
- Go for a walk, run, or jog.
- Walk along the beach.
- Go for a bike ride.
  - Show your Little how to maintain their bike; replace the chain, repair brakes, etc.
- Hike to the top of Sugarloaf or Hogback!
- Play ball or throw Frisbee.
- Make an obstacle course in your yard or at a local park.
- Play with sidewalk chalk.
- Have a picnic.
- Rake leaves or shovel snow at your home, or for someone unable to get out and do it themselves.
- Yard work.
  - Trim the hedges, Mow the yard, Rake the leaves, and/or Plant flowers
- Visit the nearest nature preserve.

- Play a Sport.
  - Basketball, baseball, football, swimming, dancing, skating, bowling, etc.
  - Mini golf or driving range for golf
- Blow bubbles.
- Go on a scavenger hunt.
- Go fruit picking at a local farm.
- Start a garden – indoors or outdoors.
- Bounce on a trampoline
- Watch a Parade.
- Go horseback riding.
- Build a snowman/woman.
- Watch a firework show.
- Carve or paint pumpkins together, don't forget to roast the seeds!
- Take a day trip.

### **Volunteering Opportunities**

- Habitat for Humanity
- Humane Society
- Local Animal Shelter
- Local Soup Kitchen
- Homeless Shelters
- Senior Citizens
- Nursing Homes
- Check Yooper's United for volunteer opportunities: <https://www.yoopersunited.com/>

### **Real World Skills/Values**

- Take your Little to work with you and show them what you do every day.
- Volunteer with your Little.
- Start a recycling plan with your Little.
- Fill out a job application, even if your Little is "too young". Emphasize penmanship, precision, and keeping track of information.
- Learn how to count, say hello, good bye, and thank you in as many different languages as you can.
- Learn a different language.
- Compliment your Little.
- Write a letter to a politician on an issue that's important to you Little.
- Visit your Little at their school. Eat lunch with them. (Make sure to get a note from the parent/guardian with permission).
- Visit a Metro Council Meeting.
- Visit a local Court House and observe a court hearing.

- Talk with your Little about their family and what makes a family and how there are all different types of families.
- Tour a college campus. Call admissions office for more information.
- Help your Little write their resume.
- Show your Little how to manage their money, write a check and read a bank statement.
- Work on homework together.
- Teach them how to maintain a car. Change the oil, wash the car, change a tire, or any other handy skills you have.
- Look up new words in the dictionary, play Scrabble.
- Write a letter to your Little on your match anniversary telling what you have noticed about them in the last year.
- Keep a journal of all your outings together and what you liked/disliked about each.
- Let your Little do chores and run errands with you.
- Visit your church or your Little's church.
- Visit an area firehouse or police station (some firehouses give tours).

### Miscellaneous

- Start a collection/hobby together (photography, coins, stamps, jokes, rocks, crafts, sewing, scrapbooking, etc.).
- Do a science project together ([www.sciencekids.co.nz](http://www.sciencekids.co.nz)).
- Bake a cake, cookies, brownies, or candy together.
- Try out a special recipe together.
- Go to the grocery store together.
- Go to the Public Library.
- Read a book series together.
- Play board games.
- Play video games.
- Go to an arcade.
- Play games on the internet or look at your favorite age-appropriate sites.
- Go out to eat and try new restaurants together.
- Go to an auto show, boat show or truck pull.
- Go to a Circus, Carnival or Fair.
- Build a model airplane, car, boat or rocket.
- Attend a sporting event.
- Complete a puzzle together.
- Go to the movies together.
- Take a Yoga class together.
- Exercise together.

# MATCH ACTIVITY BUCKET LIST



Sometimes it can be hard to come up with ideas for activities, so many new matches find it helpful to create a bucket list to try over the next year. In the first month of your new match, plan an outing at your local library, coffee shop, or park and take some time to complete this bucket list together.

**Things to do in the summer:**

---

---

---

**Things to do in the spring:**

---

---

---

**Things to do in the fall:**

---

---

---

**Things to do in the winter:**

---

---

---

**Things to do inside:**

---

---

---

**Things to do outside:**

---

---

---

**Volunteer opportunities:**

---

---

---

**Visit a new place:**

---

---

---

**Things to teach your Big:**

---

---

---

**Things to teach your Little:**

---

---

---

**Thing to try in your neighborhood:**

---

---

---

**Big Brothers Big Sisters events:**

- *Match Connection Party*
- *Summer Picnic*

**Tip:** Keep this list in the Big's car and check it off as you, referencing it when you're stuck on planning your next hang out. Don't forget to contact your Match Engagement Coordinator if you need helping coming up with ideas!