

In School Mentoring Activity Ideas

Crafts

- Draw a picture with your toes
- Trace each other's shadows on the sidewalk
- Pressed flower crafts
- Make a pet rock - clean, paint, glue on hats and feet etc.
- Build a castle out of toothpicks or cards
- Make finger puppets, shadow puppets
- Make a scrapbook of the things you have done together
- Make friendship bracelets
- Beading
- Paint canvases
- Use fabric paints to color your t-shirt or pillowcase
- Try leather work - make a belt or purse
- Paper plane flying contest
- Origami
- Paint or draw
- Ceramics or sculptures
- Learn to sew - make your own costumes
- Holiday Activities - colour Easter eggs, decorate a tree, make your own cards
- Make paper snowflakes
- Make paper-mache
- Draw pictures of each other
- Create a cartoon character together
- Make a paper-mache volcano and erupt it (outside)
- Try finger painting
- Make masks
- Make a shoe box house with miniature furniture
- Make a piñata and then ask the teacher if the class can break it
- Cut pictures from magazines and create an "all about me" collage
- Make sock puppets
- Create a calendar and note special dates

Games

- Balance an item on your head and try navigating through a maze
- Set up a domino maze and knock it over
- Play hopscotch
- Try the Limbo!
- Thumb wrestle
- Draw tattoos on each other
- Lawn games - Frisbee, croquet
- Play cards and board games - maybe create your own!!
- Do a jigsaw puzzle
- Make up new rules to an old board game and write them down
- Ask each other trivia questions
- Play "hangman" or "I spy"
- Create a secret code and write coded messages to each other
- Learn to play chess
- Write your own "knock knock" jokes
- Learn how to juggle
- Create a skit or a play

Food

- Make a milkshake, float, Jello, or pudding
- Bake
- Try a new recipe
- Make a pizza
- Make a gingerbread house
- Decorate cupcakes or cookies

Build/fix things

- Make a dollhouse
- Build a snowman or snow fort
- Build a kite and try to fly it
- Build a bird house
- Build a model car, ship, or plane
- Build Lego! (See how tall you can make a Lego creation before it falls over)

Sport activities

- basketball, football, soccer, floor hockey, etc
- hide and seek
- Learn how to do a dance (chicken dance, line dance, Macarena)
- See how long you can keep a ball in the air (balloon, beach ball, volleyball)

Around the school

- Go on a picnic on the field
- Adopt a pet - through correspondence i.e. an endangered species
- Help set up for a community event happening in the school
- Go on a "nature walk" on the school grounds (try using a compass) and take some photographs - no need for a fancy camera
- Do a good deed at the school (help the custodian or librarian during one visit)
- Have a scavenger hunt in the library
- Create a treasure hunt map for your Mentee and hide a "buried treasure" where "X" marks the spot
- Have races in the Gym

"Girl Stuff"

- Read teen magazines - quizzes, embarrassing stories

Arts/ Culture/Music

- Listen to and compare favorite music
- Teach each other something - musical instrument, new game, skill
- Listen to music or write your own song
- Write a story or create a play
- Make a video together
- Make a Claymation movie
- Research another culture's customs & traditions
- Learn a magic trick
- Create a crossword puzzle or word search together
- Plant seeds in a flower pot and see if they grow
- Go on a photo scavenger hunt around the school grounds
- Make up your own words to a favorite song
- Read a comic book
- Read a joke book

Learning activities

- Computer games or surf the Net
- Be a scientist – study birds, butterflies, bugs
- Collect leaves and try to identify them
- Chose a place on a map and learn about it
- Research a favourite animal or dinosaur in the library
- Conduct a science experiment
- Learn about astronomy
- Share with each other about your own culture

Other

- Keep a journal of your activities
- Read the newspaper headlines and have your Little/mentee guess the story
- Have “show and tell” – each of you bring something special from home and discuss its importance to you
- Write a letter to a favorite famous person
- Write down everything that you and your Mentee like about each other and then share
- crazy photos - dress up in silly clothes, take pictures, pretend you are a professional photographer and make each other pose
- Draw Mazes for the other to try to solve
- Learn to sign something in Sign Language
- Create a new language together

If you have other ideas you've tried and would like to pass along please let us know!

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Abbotsford has also created a week by week match activity guide for In School Mentoring!

Find it here at :

<http://www.mentoringworks.ca/en/Home/Resources/ActivityGuide.aspx>