



HELLO PARENTS,

Children are naturally interested about the world around them. This innate curiosity drives their desire to learn, explore, discover and figure things out. Nurturing your child's curiosity is one of the most important ways you can help them become a lifelong learner. You can foster your child's interests by providing them with opportunities, new experiences and time to explore. In this newsletter, we provide activities that will stimulate your child's curiosity and motivate them to learn new things.

ACTIVITIES

INFANTS (3 – 18 MONTHS)

STICKY FUN

MATERIALS:

- Small toys, balls, etc.
- Contact paper or wide clear tape
- Masking tape

DIRECTIONS:

- Using masking tape, attach a sheet of contact paper to the floor, sticky side up. You can replace contact paper with wide clear tape.
- Invite your child to explore this novelty material.
- Provide some small toys and observe your infant's reaction when they discover that the toys stick to contact paper.
- Encourage your child's explorations by making comments and wondering together.

[Click here](#) for more activity ideas.

TODDLERS (19 MONTHS – 2.5 YEARS)

CLOTHESPIN CHALLENGE

MATERIALS:

- Clothespins (spring-type and pegs)
- Box

DIRECTIONS:

- Offer your child a collection of clothespins in a box.
- Invite your child to explore the clothespins.
- You can show your child how the clothespins work and encourage them to place them around the edge of the box.
- Together, count the clothespins pointing to each one as you go.
- Encourage your child to group them by colours.

[Click here](#) for more ideas.

PRESCHOOLERS (2.5 – 5 YEARS)

MY BOOK

MATERIALS:

- Paper
- Paper punch
- Safety scissors
- Pencil, pen and markers
- Yarn, pipe cleaners or stapler

DIRECTIONS:

- Invite your child to make a book about themselves.
- Get five or six sheets of paper, and ask your child to punch holes in each page close to one edge.
- Thread yarn through the holes to keep the pages together. You can also bind the book with twisted pipe cleaners or staple the pages together.
- On the outside cover of the booklet, help your child print their name.
- Ask your child about what they will draw on each page and write on the page what they say. Here are some examples:
 - People in my family
 - My favourite toys
 - My favourite books
 - My friends
 - My pet
 - My neighbourhood
 - My home
- When the book is finished, encourage your child to read it to family members or friends.

[Click here](#) for more ideas.

JK/SK (4 – 6 YEARS)

TAKE IT APART

MATERIALS:

- Old computer keyboard (or any other unused device that can be taken apart, such as a toaster, stationary phone, etc.)
- Screwdriver
- Paper
- Pencil

DIRECTIONS:

- Together with your child open the old device using a screwdriver.
- Have your child explore the insides of the device and its parts.
- At this point, your child can make a sketch of what they see inside.
- Encourage your child to remove or disconnect the inner parts of the device and inspect the pieces.
- Again, ask your child to sketch each piece as they see it.
- Engage your child in a discussion about the device and what they think each part is responsible for.
- When you finish, your child can try to re-assemble the device. They may use their sketches as guidelines.
- Ask your child what they have learned from this experience.

[Click here](#) for more ideas.

SCHOOL-AGERS (6 – 12 YEARS)

REVERSE TEACHING

MATERIALS:

- Notebook
- Pen
- Additional props and materials (they will vary depending on the topic)

DIRECTIONS:

- In this activity, you will act as a teacher and you will teach your family members or friends about something that you are interested in.
- Choose your topic. It may be your hobby, something you read a lot about, something you actively engage in, or something new that you would like to learn about.
- Make a list of the main points about your topic to create an outline.
- Expand each point by adding details.
- If possible, find pictures, videos, or objects that could add interest to or illustrate your presentation.
- Invite your family members or friends to your "class".
- Introduce the subject and start your presentation.
- Make sure that you actively engage your audience just like your teacher does at school. You can do it by asking questions, inviting them to make predictions, have them read short texts related to your topic, etc.
- Take regular breaks and ask your "students" to summarize the information you have presented.
- At the end of your lecture, your audience can ask additional questions to learn more from you on the subject.

[Click here](#) for hobby ideas.



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and Citizenship Canada

Immigration, Réfugiés
et Citoyenneté Canada

A TIP FOR TODAY

- Share with your child your enthusiasm for learning.
- Model your interest in the world around you.
- Recognize and celebrate your child's achievements.
- Ask open-ended questions that allow your child to express their thoughts, ideas and feelings.
- Show enthusiasm for your child's interests and encourage them to explore subjects that fascinate them.
- Encourage your child to express their likes, dislikes or concerns.