



10 WAITING GAMES YOU CAN PLAY RIGHT NOW

Congratulations, you are about to show your kids how fun being unplugged can be! Keep this list handy on your phone, or print it out and keep a copy in your purse so you can play these games anytime, anywhere, including right now.

1. Penny drop.

Take out a penny and try to drop it so it lands on your shoe without falling off.

2. Scrap of paper drop.

Drop a small scrap of paper. Try to catch it with two fingers before it hits the ground.

3. Build a Story.

One child begins a story with a single sentence. Building upon that sentence the next child continues the story with his own sentence. Continue in this manner until "The End."

4. Word chain.

Choose a topic, such as food. The first person says a word, the second person says that word plus his own, the third person says the first two words plus her own, and so forth, continue until someone can no longer remember the word chain.

5. Fortunately/Unfortunately.

One player begins with a sentence such as "Fortunately, the bus is coming." The next player counters with a sentence such as, "Unfortunately, it turned into an airplane and flew away!" The next player starts again with "Fortunately..."

6. Mirror mirror.

The child and parent face each other. The child starts moving very slowly and the parent tries to mirror the movements as closely as possible. Or, two children can mirror each other and the parent tries to guess who is leading the movement.

7. What did I change?

Have your child take stock of what you look like. Child closes eyes. Change one thing about your appearance, such as untie shoes, etc. Child opens eyes and tries to identify what changed.

8. Invent limericks.

A limerick is a five line poem that usually starts, "There was an old man from...." These are fun because they are usually very silly. Making it collaborative!

9. In my purse is a story.

Choose three items from your purse and challenge kids to invent a story around those three items.

10. Magazine hunt.

Turn a magazine into a scavenger hunt. Instruct kids to find certain items. For example, "Find something purple that starts with a C," or "find a blue animal."

I'd love to hear from you! Which of these games was your kids' favorite? Drop me a note at erica@whatdoallday.com and tell me about your success!

