

At-Home Summer Fun for Creative Kids & Families

# AUGUST

**1** Research the ancient art of shadow play theatre. Create your own style and put on a performance using a sheet and flashlights. Retell a folk or fairy tale with it. **Chinese Shadow Puppetry or What is Shadow Puppetry?**

**2** Celebrate National Coloring Book Day  
**Elementary:** Color at least 2 new designs and display your favorite creations in a home gallery. **Secondary:** Create a themed coloring book to give to a young friend or family member.

**3** Find a shelf, closet, or cupboard that is full and reorganize it. Categorize the items in a fun and useful way. Try to find at least a few things that you can recycle or donate to someone else.

**4** Make a terrarium in a glass jar to care for a tiny ecosystem. **How to Make a Terrarium for Free**



**5** Create a silly exercise routine that uses canned food items as weights. How many different moves can you do with just 2 cans? Film your routine for a grandparent who likes to exercise.

**6** Plan an international meal. Prepare food from a country you'd like to visit someday. Add decorations to your eating area and play music by an artist from that part of the world.

**7** Gather summer flowers and create an artistic arrangement to brighten up a room. **Flower Arranging for Beginners**



**8** Color aluminum foil with a permanent marker and turn it into a dramatic piece of art. **DIY: Aluminum Foil and Sharpie Wall Art**

**9** Attend dinner in a surprise costume and stay in character for the whole meal. Use an old Halloween favorite or design something brand new. Encourage every family member to participate and take photos.

**10 Elementary:** Write a special note in cursive handwriting to an older relative. Send it to them. **Secondary:** Write your favorite quote in calligraphy and hang it on a wall or mirror. **How To Do Modern Calligraphy**

**11 Elementary:** Stay up late to look for constellations. **A Kid's Guide to Stargazing Secondary:** Stay up very late or get up very early to watch the peak of the Perseid meteor shower. **Perseid 2020.**

**12** Do a shadow drawing to learn about physics. **Light And Shadow Experiment**



**13** Find out how your state got its name or nickname, then research the surprising stories behind other state names. **States Names and Nicknames.** Call someone who lives in a different state to talk about how you might rename your states if you could.

**14** Research Mehndi or the art of painting henna designs on the body. **Henna Hands.** Follow a tutorial or create your own elaborate pattern.



**15** Host an egg drop competition to see who can build the safest landing vehicle for a raw egg. Agree on rules and set a time limit for construction. Test your inventions from the highest point where you can safely drop and recover them.

**16** Plan a relaxing at-home spa day complete with soft lighting and calming music. Take turns in a bubble bath and give each other facials or manicures. Serve light snacks and fruit-infused water.

**17** Use the board, cards, or pieces from at least 3 different board games and combine them to make a brand-new game. Create new pieces out of recycled materials. Write down the rules and refine them as you play.

**18** Explore suspension and sedimentation by growing your name in crystals. **Crystal Names**



**19** Build an accurate sundial using only a pencil, rocks, and a lump of clay. **Sundial. Elementary:** Use it to tell time while you are outdoors. **Secondary:** Track its accuracy over time. Research historical sundials.

**20** Choose a new way to organize your **Bookshelves.** Be creative and display your favorite treasures along with your books.

**21** For 1 hour, wear the silliest or goofiest hairstyle you can create. Take photos and challenge your friends to modify and improve your style.

**22** Create a scavenger hunt that goes both inside and outside your home. Hide silly riddles, tricky clues, and special prizes that will give your family a fun adventure searching in unusual places.

**23 Elementary:** Bake your favorite dessert with a healthy substitution. **Ten Simple Substitutes. Secondary:** Research and cook a tasty vegan meal for your family. **50 Easy Vegan Recipes**

**24** Write a letter to an elected official about an issue that you care about. **Elected Officials**

**25** Using the Harry Potter series for inspiration, create your own grimoire (magic spell book) using Latin or Greek roots and your favorite translation software. Each page should have an incantation, description, and illustration.

**26** Learn how to draw an optical illusion. **The Impossible Oval: Narrated**



**27** Gather elaborate outfits and fun props, then organize a family photo shoot. Be creative with backdrops, poses, and candid shots.

**28** Review Guinness World Records and think of a fun one you can try to break. **Guinness World Records: Home**

**29** Use math to double or triple a special family recipe. Make enough to freeze for later or share with friends and neighbors.

**30** Save an egg carton to make a mancala game. **DIY Mancala Game Board!**

**31** Declare today a "Reread Your Favorite Book Day" with your family.

Special thanks to NAGC's Parent Editorial Content & Advisory Board, Jessica LaFollette, Ph.D., and Tracy Elford for compiling these fun activities!

National Association for Gifted Children  
1331 H Street NW, Suite 1001; Washington, DC 20005  
202-785-4268 | [www.nagc.org](http://www.nagc.org)

