



New Volunteer Orientation Guide

101 THINGS TO DO WITH YOUR LITTLE

1. Attend a BBBS Match Activity.
2. Start a hobby together (e.g., astronomy, clowning, sewing, music, singing, drama, dance, stained glass, painting, poetry...).
3. Start a collection of something you are both interested in like stamps, rocks, coins, comics, bugs, dolls, figures, sports cards, etc.
4. Walk, train, and play with your dog together.
5. Pop popcorn (the “old fashioned” way, not in the microwave) and watch a movie.
6. Build a model car, plane, or rocket.
7. Form your own book club (with other matches) and/or read together.
8. Go to a circus or carnival.
9. Go bowling at the Brattleboro Bowl in Brattleboro, the Springfield Bowl in Springfield, Vermont, or the North Star Bowl & Video in Wilmington.
10. Draw, paint, work with clay, or make paper-mache animals or casts of each other.
11. Play Charades, checkers, chess, backgammon, or any board or card game (you can even create your own).
12. Take a bike ride together.
13. Research your family trees together – the library and internet are great resources!
14. Attend your Little’s school play or sporting event to cheer him/her on!
15. Fly a kite at the park – for an extra challenge, make your own kites!
16. Visit an area firehouse or police station.
17. Hike a mountain. Climb Wantastiquet Mountain, right over the bridge from Brattleboro – it’s a perfect beginner mountain.
18. Feed birds or go to a park and feed the ducks.
19. Go rollerskating, blading or ice skating.
20. Have a TV show you both watch every week, then call and talk about it.
21. Do a science project together using household products (find out what happens to an egg soaked in vinegar).
22. Take a free kid-friendly class at your local Home Depot (Keene, NH).



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23. Bounce on a trampoline.
24. Attend a performance at the New England Youth Theatre in Brattleboro.
25. Go to local art fairs, festivals, and events.
26. Go to a parade, like Strolling of the Heifers in Brattleboro.
27. Go horseback riding.
28. Check into local history/archeology.
29. Love to fish? Check out the American Museum of Fly Fishing in Manchester, Vermont.
30. Take a walk and bring a momento bag to collect interesting objects along the way.
31. Prepare a meal together from start to finish – try finding good recipes online or in your favorite cookbook. (YUMMY!)
32. Check out the Shelburne Falls Glacial Potholes, in Shelburne, Mass.
33. Help your Little with homework or a school project.
34. Write a letter to your Little on your match anniversary telling what you've noticed about him/her in the last year. Ex: positive changes, growth or maturity.
35. Check out your local Farmer's Market.
36. Watch a fireworks show.
37. Take your Little to your place of employment.
38. After you have been matched for six months, go on a camping trip, even if it is in your backyard or inside (remember how much fun it was to throw a sheet over the dining room table).
39. Make your own cards for holidays, birthdays, and other special occasions for friends and relatives.
40. Trim the hedges, mow the lawn, rake the leaves, and do yard work together.
41. Build a bird house or feeder.
42. Visit a Park.
43. Write and send letters in the mail to each other, or get pen pals.
44. Share family/vacation pictures with each other.
45. Create a Match scrapbook or photo album to record all your fun times together.
46. Start a garden - indoors or out.
47. Carve a pumpkin together - don't forget to roast the seeds!



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48. Make a log cabin, picture frame, or anything you can think of out of Popsicle sticks.
49. Try new restaurants together.
50. Go to the movies, or rent a DVD.
51. Teach him/her how to change the oil in your car, or any handy skills you may have.
52. Complete a jigsaw puzzle.
53. Volunteer at a community center/soup kitchen/humane society.
54. Make up new lyrics to a song – maybe even about your match.
55. Go to an auto show, boat show, or truck pull.
56. Make your own T-shirts with fabric markers and colored glue.
57. Enjoy cloud watching on a nice day.
58. Go swimming or even play with the water hose or sprinkler in the backyard.
59. Volunteer to help build a house for Habitat for Humanity, or deliver food for Meals on Wheels.
60. Keep a journal of all your outings together and what you liked/disliked about each.
61. Make friendship bracelets, or do other crafts together.
62. Visit a local courthouse and observe a court hearing.
63. Take a ride on the Green Mountain Railroad!
64. Play frisbee, basketball, volleyball, touch football, croquet, badminton, etc.
65. Make paper airplanes and gliders.
66. Go apple picking and try different apple recipes with your apples.
67. Visit a local museum, like the Montshire Museum of Science in Norwich, Vermont.
68. Write a newsletter together to send to your friends and relatives.
69. Play games on the internet or peruse your favorite age-appropriate sites together.
70. Play golf or putt-putt, or just hit golf balls at a driving range.
71. Make wrapping paper from old magazines and newspaper.
72. Show him/her how to maintain their bike—replace chain, repair brakes, etc.
73. If you and your Little love flowers, visit the Olallie Daylily Garden in South Newfane, Vermont.
74. Make an obstacle course in your yard or local park and time each other.



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75. Make puppets.
76. Play video games/ pinball.
77. Check out Putney's Twilight on the Tavern Lawn concert series every other Friday night during the summer.
78. Use sidewalk chalk and draw pictures on the sidewalk.
79. Let your Little drive...at a go-cart track!
80. Go to a gem and mineral show.
81. Look through coupon books for 2 for 1 deals for your favorite activities.
82. Let your Little do chores and run errands with you.
83. Eat lunch with your Little at school.
84. Call your Case Manager and let them know about the activities you have tried.
85. Bake a cake, cookies, or brownies or make candy – make sure to share with your Case Manager!
86. Have a picnic.
87. Make a collage on "friendship" or your Little's life using pictures and headlines from old magazines and newspapers.
88. Visit the Windham County Humane Society in Brattleboro, Vermont.
89. Look up new words in the dictionary.
90. Have your Little teach you something.
91. Go swimming in the West River or at Spofford Lake in New Hampshire.
92. Plan for a money earning project and save money for a special event.
93. Blow Bubbles.
94. Visit The Nature Museum at Grafton, in Grafton, Vermont.
95. Listen to music together.
96. If your Little is a teenager, practice completing job and college applications.
97. Show your Little your high school yearbook, baby pictures, old report cards, etc.
98. Build a snowman/ woman.
99. Visit Yankee Candle Village in Deerfield, Mass. It's practically a theme park!
100. Go on a camera scavenger hunt – Make a list of the things you want pictures of before you go and let your Little take the pictures.
101. Talk about this list! And make a goal to complete everything on the list.