



As you are considering safe-distanced, summer options for your kids, here are 21 healthy, fun and educational ideas found around the internet. All these can be accomplished while practicing safe distancing.

1. Field trips for Kids and Parents – one day per week throughout the summer. You may need to charge a nominal fee. Field trip ideas: Day at the zoo, children’s museum, bowling alley, farm, etc.
2. Day Camp – hold a “themed” day camp with planned activities such as crafts, cooking, games, and stories.
3. Design a T-Shirt Party — At the beginning of the summer, have kids design a theme shirt or hats for the summer. Provide fabric paint and have kids bring T-shirts to decorate or purchase/borrow a Cricut machine ([Cricut Home](#)) and make your own! Allow them to be free to create.
4. Pizza Party — Set up a topping bar and allow kids to make their own pizzas on English muffins, flatbread, or French bread.
5. Movie Party— Rent a movie with permission to show it to a group. Pop plenty of popcorn. Have kids make it a “drive-in movie” by creating cars out of big boxes, then the kids can sit in their “cars” and watch the show.
6. Make-a-Movie Extravaganza — Use Bible themes and re-enact biblical stories or create your own theme and record the skit/play on a Smart Phone or video camera.
7. Plan weekly outdoor worship times with fellowship. Remind the kids about their “safe space.”
8. Plan an outdoor Christian music concert. Use your worship team or another church’s worship team to save money.
9. On the Sunday prior to Independence Day (July 4th), plan a “red, white and blue jean” Sunday. Invite local first responders to attend the worship service, present them with a gift, show them gratitude and pray over them.
10. Have a weekly reading club or kids’ story hour in the church library.

11. Organize a bike ride that ends at the church.
12. Arrange a Christ-focused teens' art day-camp. Be prepared for a mess! Use water-soluble paints.
13. Invite the community to join you for outdoor tournaments, such as volleyball, horseshoes, softball, bocce ball, corn toss or 3-on-3 basketball.
14. Plan a father/mother and kids' camp out on the church lawn.
15. Your kids can organize a drive-through to pass out free snow cones and invite your neighbors to Sunday worship. GBA has a snow cone machine!
16. Mom's Morning out – a 3-hour window where moms can drop off kids to have a short free time.
17. Date Night – offer free childcare to give parents a needed breather.
18. Staycation – Create a virtual, “trip around the world” using travel videos (KEEP THEM SHORT)! Give all ages a chance to get away mentally. Let them share about their favorite trip/vacation. Make it fun.
19. Mission Mania – Go outside the church walls! Involve parents and kids in a day/week of local mission mania? Check out your local community for places of service and ministry.
20. Kids “Bake Off” Day – Have the kids make a personalized apron. It will make them feel like a bakery chef and add to the fun of baking. They can use a template design with permanent markers to start the party. Here is an inexpensive option: [Amazon.com: AIVS 48 Pieces Children's Artists Fabric Aprons & Chef Hats for Kitchen, Classroom, Community Event, Crafts and Art Painting Activity, Kid's Size\(M 2 -12 Year\): Toys & Games](#). They not only make for adorable photos, but also keep party clothes flour-free.

For ideas and recipes, check out these internet links: [170 Baking & Cooking Party Ideas in 2021 | baking party, party, party cooking \(pinterest.com\)](#), [19 Easy Baking Recipes For Kid - Baking With Kids—Delish.com](#), or [20 Easy Baking Recipes for Kids to Start With! | Taste of Home](#)
21. Online Adventures - try one or more of these free experiences: With most of the virtual camps below, you can mix and match activities to tailor the experience to your kids' interests. **Check out these free options:**

Start with a Book. Free; age 6 and up. <https://www.commonsensemedia.org/website-reviews/start-with-a-book> In addition to a summer science camp, this site offers a long list of themes, such as Art, Night Sky, and Weather Report, for kids to explore. For each theme, you get book suggestions (for all reading levels), discussion guides, hands-on activities, and related sites and apps. You'll need to shell out for books if you can't find them at the library.

DIY. Free and fee-based; age 7 and up. <https://www.commonsensemedia.org/website-reviews/diy> This site offers online courses in areas such as drawing, photography, animation, inventing, and science, plus more than 1,000 additional activities (many of which can be completed offline). You can try out the site for 14 days before committing to a monthly subscription.

Google Arts & Culture. Free; age 12 and up. <https://www.commonsemmedia.org/app-reviews/google-arts-culture>

Google Arts & Culture puts the worlds of art, science, history, and travel at your fingertips. In addition to letting you take a selfie and compare your face to images from great works of art, it also lets you find information about artists, museums, historic figures, places, and historic events.

