

ACTIVITIES WHERE YOU AND YOUR GRANDCHILD DON'T  
NEED AN APPLICATION OR A DEVICE

# 9 Application Free Activities

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# Nine proven activities to build a stronger relationship with your grandchildren.

Often overlooked activities that build connections, fun, and communication.

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# Catch

Don't underestimate the conversations, skill-building, and pure enjoyment of taking a grandson or daughter out for a game of catch. A game of catch can lead to some meaningful conversations about anything and nothing.

**Equipment needed:** ball, gloves, and patience for overthrown balls.



# Work on a car

Grandfathers have been working on cars or other mechanical devices since who knows when. Modern cars can be tough to work on. However, there is still basic maintenance that can be used to teach valuable lessons and experiences that can be passed on. Grandchildren can be fascinated by the workings of a car, AND both boys and girls should know the basics of the upkeep of a car.

**Equipment needed:** wrenches, rags, screwdrivers, maybe some oil, and a beat up shop radio



# Hiking

Hiking is different from walking. Hiking is a chance to take the grandkids into nature and often into some backcountry. It is VERY important that the grandkids have a good time or they won't want to go out again. Create some games along the way such as plant and animal identification.

**Equipment needed:** water, proper equipment, a camera (separate from your phone if you can), and a healthy snack

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# Drive

This is a great activity for having a conversation. A great drive can be a loop drive where the scenery is the star. An unusual or fun destination can be a hit as well. You need to judge the amount of time for the drive. Younger kids will not generally be into an hours-long drive where teens might be into it. PRO-TIP: alternate the music. Let them play you stuff they are into and then play some of your classics. Music is a great neutral discussion topic that can get people to open up.

**Equipment needed:** map (if you want to introduce them to that), water, healthy snacks, full tank of gas



# Cooking

What a great way to combine conversation, science, food, and music. Cooking can build lasting memories and is something that kids enjoy doing. There is magic in combining different ingredients and producing something that can be eaten and enjoyed by those creating it. Be sure that you have the right difficulty level for the age of the grandchildren but use the cooking experience to challenge their patience and ability to follow direction. Cooking is a fantastic way to pass down family traditions.

**Equipment needed:** general kitchen utensils and food ingredients



# Fishing or Hunting

For ages, grandfathers have helped develop a love for the outdoors and nature through fishing and hunting. So many hours have passed between grandfathers and grandchildren walking a field, sitting on the shore of a lake or stream, or walking a field. This time outdoors is a rich opportunity for conversations and just quiet times spent in each other's company.

**Equipment needed:** sporting equipment, licenses, and good food (likely not mother or grandmother approved)

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# Walking

Walking is different from hiking. Walking is an activity that can happen in the neighborhood or around town. We used to be told if we wanted to go somewhere, then we had to walk or get a ride. Times have changed but grandpas can still take walks with the grandchildren to a friend's house, the convenience store, or to the local park. Heck, a walk around the block is a great way to get out and just spend some time together away from apps and screens.

**Equipment needed:** appropriate footwear and maybe a few dollars for a treat at the convenience store



# Minor league Sports

Minor league games, regardless of sport, can be a fun and inexpensive outing for grandpa and grandchildren. These events have a lot of children-friendly activities and the cost of admission isn't too great. Odds are that there is a minor league team (hockey, basketball, baseball, rugby, etc.) close to you. The games are a great way to teach children the rules of the game, mark up a scorecard and talk about your favorite sports figures.

**Equipment needed:** a pen or pencil for the scorecard (baseball), Sharpe for autographs



# Reading

Reading is a great way to connect with your grandchild. This is one of those activities, though, that does have a window of opportunity. Older grandchildren will not be as keen on having their grandpa read to them as younger grandchildren. Don't think that reading is only a grandmother's activity. Grandchildren enjoy grandpa's reading to them as well because, well, we do it differently from grandma. Reading to grandchildren is a great way to pass on to the grandchildren stories that you enjoyed as a child.

**Equipment needed:** reading glasses (if you need them), a comfortable place to sit or lay down, and a fun book

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# About Me

In 2018, I became a grandfather. Since then, I have been passionate about learning about the impact that grandfathers can have on the lives of their grandchildren and their families. I have interviewed grandfathers, grandchildren, and experts all in the pursuit of providing grandfathers and other family members with the tools and insights they need to maximize their impact on their relations...if they choose to.

These experiences and lessons are shared worldwide on The cool-grandpa podcast. The podcast and other tools for grandfathers are available on my website:

[www.cool-grandpa.us](http://www.cool-grandpa.us)

# Write your topic or idea



## ADD A MAIN POINT

Briefly elaborate on what you want to discuss.



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