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Turn Chores / Errands into Fun, Learning Activities

How many times do we get in a hurry when going to the store, washing clothes, or cooking dinner and feel guilty because we do not have the time to spend with our children? Actually, this is a perfect opportunity to turn a chore or errand into a fun, learning experience with our children.

Driving or walking to a local grocery store is a great chance to spend quality time with your child. You can play a game of “I Spy.” Find an object that you feel your child can easily see. Describe the shape and color. Allow your child to have three guesses. If your child answers correctly, let her describe an object to you. This game reviews shapes and colors. You can also introduce other shapes to your child as you play, such as an octagon for a stop sign.

Washing clothes is another opportunity to turn work into play. Allow your child to help sort matching socks. You can ask if the socks are the same/different. Your child can identify small/big clothes. Your child is discriminating sizes and colors.

Cooking a meal is a wonderful experience to make learning fun. Tasting or feeling the ingredients to a food dish is great for scientific exploration. You can ask, “What do you think this will taste like? How does this feel to you?” Math skills can be reinforced. Allow your child to help measure the ingredients. Your child can set the table, counting the number of plates, forks, spoons, and glasses for each person.

You can allow your child to think of a game to play during chore or errand time. He may invent a really fun and educational game for you to play together. An important thought to keep in mind is to Keep Learning Fun! You will make many happy memories while learning takes place.



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