

Kids Boredom Busters from Tupperware

How many more days until school starts? Make a paper chain to count down the days. Have a "boredom bowl" filled with pieces of paper that have various activities on them, let them pick one a day. Could be a chore, bike riding, writing in a journal, reading, trip to the library, zoo, amusement park, picnic,

Some artistic activities follow, along with a shopping list of items you'll need: Bananas, Course Salt, Glue, Newspaper, Peppermint Oil, Celery, Cream Cheese, Gumdrops, Pins, Sugar, Cereals, Cukes, Hot Dog Buns, Poster Paints, Toothpicks, Clear Acrylic Spray Paint, Flour, Joy Dish Detergent, Rubbing Alcohol, Yeast, Clear Nail Polish, Food Coloring, Macaroni noodles, Salt, Yellow cake mix, Corn Syrup, Frosting, Magnets, Peanut Butter, Zucchini

Self-Hardening Salt Clay:

Mix 1 1/2 C salt with 4 C of flour.

Add 1 tsp alum as preservative if clay is not baked (acts as a preservative) Gradually add water.

When dough forms a ball around a spoon, knead dough well, Add more water if too crumbly. Store in an airtight container.



Sprinkling it with water and sealing it in a Tupperware container can rejuvenate even the crustiest dough.

This dough can be baked at 300* for 30-40 min for small shapes.

What to make with your clay:

Handprint Paperweight: Flatten a ball to a 1" thickness. Press hand firmly into clay to make handprint. Using plastic knife trim excess off. Use pointed tool to write name and date. Dry completely and paint with poster paint.

Clay cookies, ornaments and beads: Roll dough, cut out shapes using favorite Tupperware cookie cutters. Use a straw to make a hole to hang at the top.

Lightly grease straw and wrap dough around for beads. Slide off. For older children let them roll the dough in their hands and use a nail to poke a hole. Let dry and paint. Brush on clear nail polish to make shiny. Alternate beads and pasta for one of a kind necklaces.

Coloring Noodles: Mix 1 Tbls food coloring & 2 Tbls rubbing alcohol (sets the color) Stir uncooked pasta into the colors. Spread on newspaper or wax paper to dry. String onto shoelaces or yarn. Use glue to build shapes. Keep a couple of oval or square Modular Mate containers full of colored noodles for instant rainy day play.

Animal Dins/magnets: Spray clear acrylic paint on clay shapes or animal cookies glue a magnet orpin to the back. (Available at craft stores).

Toothpick Architecture: Box of toothpicks and a mound of clay. Build houses, bridges, and circus cages. Add gumdrops with glue for color. Store toothpicks in a large Tupperware spice shaker, Mini Modular Mate rectangle or Freeze Smart. Make trees to go with the houses with colored noodles glued together. put on top of 2-3 toothpicks. Stand them in a gumdrop at the base.

Finger Paint: 2 parts liquid laundry detergent with 1 part powdered paint or food coloring.

Soap Paint: 1 C soap flakes (not powder) add to 1/2 C cold water, beat with a mixer until still like egg whites. Add food color or powdered paint, beat thoroughly. When paint dries it gives a 3D effect. Use heavy paper or cardboard. **Caution-** Dispose of in garbage it will clog the sink.

Monster Bubbles: 6 C water, 2 C Joy dishwashing liquid, 3/4 C corn syrup (gives the bubbles added strength). Make the bubble mix 4 hours ahead of playtime. Pour into a #1 rectangular or square Modular Mate. Wands may be made out of pipe cleaners, reshaped wire coat hangers. A wand with a 6" bubble area makes bubbles the size of watermelons. Keep mix away from floors, carpets, and lawns.

Papier-Mache Paste: 3 C cold water, 1 1/2 C flour, oil of peppermint. In a heavy saucepan stir flour into cold water. Cook over low heat until mixture thickens to a creamy paste. Cool and add a few drops of peppermint oil. Cover work area with newspaper or plastic. Cut or tear newspaper into strips about 1" wide. Pour paste into Rock n Serve large shallow container. Dip one strip at a time and layover items to shape. (Tupperware Bowls, balloons, boxes, old milk or juice bottles). Smooth out lumps and trip edges. After 24 hours of drying time add 2-3 additional layers. For a smooth finish dip strips of paper toweling into the paste and cover over all. Dry completely and remove original item. Paint with poster paints, or use brightly colored tissue paper for a colorful top layer.

Time Capsule: With the world changing so fast make a time capsule. Put in notes from everyone. Something from favorite activities of the summer, pictures, newspaper headline, any current memorabilia. Keep a Thatsa Bowl or Impressions bowl handy to put items in along the way. Wrap in Ziploc bags for extra assurance then seal it in a modular mate. Bury it the weekend before the children go back to school in a safe place. (under the porch). Set a date 1 year, 5 years etc. Make a note on Dec 31 of your household calendar of what date to transfer to the next years calendar etc until the year you choose. Don't forget to note where it is or mark it with a small flag.

Food Fun

Kids Mini cakes: Mix a yellow cake mix in Tupperware mixing bowl using Tupperware measuring cups and silicon spatula according to directions. Substitute equal amounts of apple juice for water and applesauce for oil. Measure 1 C batter into the Crystalwave Soup mug. Microwave on high 2 min 15 sec. Let cool before icing. Freeze batter for later or cook a pineapple upside down cake in the Family Microsteamer with the remainder. Makes approx 2-3 mini cakes. |

Crunchy Caterpillar: (a great snack to make before lunch and become a great bug exterminator for lunch) Cut a carrot into 1/2" chunks and a zucchini or cuke into 1/4" slices. Use toothpicks to form a caterpillar body. Use another toothpick to attach a radish or cherry tomato head. Stick on "O" shaped cereal eyes with cream cheese. Poke small holes in the "Head" and insert slivers of celery for antennae!

Fruit & Nut Dog: Hot dog bun spread/w peanut butter, peel the banana and stick inside

Pretzel Mania: Soften a package of yeast in 1/2 C lukewarm water. Add 3/4 tsp salt and 1-1/2 tsp sugar. Mix in 4 C flour, and knead into soft smooth dough. Cut the dough into pieces, mold into letters, animals, etc using Tupperware cookie cutters, or Tupperware stencil art sets. In another bowl beat an egg, brush onto the shapes. Sprinkle coarse grain salt on each one (optional). Bake @ 425* for 15 minutes or until golden brown.

Dressed Up Banana: Before peeling. Decorate as favorite TV or cartoon stars or animals with Barbie clothes, wrapping paper, shredded ribbon or yarn hair, cereal and flavored morsels for eyes, earrings, belt buckles. They'll really get their imagination stirred up with this. When everyone is done take pictures and make banana splits. (Be sure to have extra bananas because younger 'children won't want to undress their banana.) Fun Party for adults too!