

Top Ten Tips to Engage Children When Video Calling



- 1. Encourage literacy.** Share a book, and have them read to you.
- 2. Have a coloring match.** Use the same color crayon for one minute, then let the other side pick the next color.
- 3. Share some jokes.** Take time telling riddles and jokes (these are easy to find online).
- 4. Build parts of a Lego city.** Talk about building a piece of the city at the same time.
- 5. Share a snack.** Count gummy bears, and talk about colors and flavors. With older kids, talk about nutrition and favorite foods.
- 6. Play a game.** If you each have the same game, you can play games like Go Fish, Battleship, Yahtzee, Guess Who, or Pictionary.
- 7. Share music.** Take turns sharing songs. Have fun and laugh while getting some exercise by having a dance party.
- 8. Share a story-writing prompt.** Each person can add one sentence at a time to make a story! You can also try Story Cubes or Mad Libs.
- 9. Ask them to share their day using sound effects and different voices.** Talk like a vampire, pirate, or a different character, and discuss your last meal! This can be hilarious.
- 10. Be the BEST listener.** Children know when you're really listening. Lean in and ask open-ended questions. Try "Tell me the best part of your day" or "Tell me more about that." Try not to give any advice.

Good Questions To Ask

- Where is your favorite place to be?
- What new thing did you learn today?
- What was your favorite part of today?
- What was the hardest part of today?
- What is something you are good at doing?
- Did you do anything kind for someone today? What?
- Where is the coolest place you have ever been?
- If you could be invisible for a day what would you do?

