Family game night games

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For a family game night with kids, start with a quick game like charades or a trivia round, then a longer one, and let a child keep score. Peabody's Game Night scorer has the child do the adding, and the paper games, riddles and tricks below are free and need no board.

Family game night games

- Activity: Game Night · What kind: Play · What a child does: A phone score sheet for family dice games where the child does the adding. · Ages: 6 and up
- Activity: Trivia · What kind: Play · What a child does: Ready trivia rounds, or build your own, for the whole table. · Ages: 7 and up
- Activity: Charades · What kind: Play · What a child does: Charades words by age, for a living room game with no board. · Ages: 5 and up
- Activity: Chess · What kind: Play · What a child does: A daily puzzle, a game to play and the openings explained. · Ages: 7 and up
- Activity: Riddles · What kind: Puzzle · What a child does: Riddles to read out at the table and guess together. · Ages: 6 and up
- Activity: Easy magic tricks · What kind: Play · What a child does: First tricks to learn, practise and show the family after dinner. · Ages: 5 to 9
- Activity: Card tricks · What kind: Play · What a child does: Tricks with an ordinary deck of cards. · Ages: 8 and up
- Activity: Music · What kind: Music · What a child does: Song sheets in any key, the Chord Finder, Beat Buddies and the sing-along. · Ages: 5 and up

Paper games for the table

- Game: Tic-tac-toe · Players: 2 · What you need: A printed grid and a pencil
- Game: Connect four · Players: 2 · What you need: A printed grid and two colors
- Game: Memory match · Players: 2 or more · What you need: The cards, printed and cut
- Game: Word guess · Players: 2 or more · What you need: A pencil
- Game: Riddles · Players: Any · What you need: Someone to read them out

How to run a family game night

1. Pick the night and keep it. The same night each week becomes something to look forward to.
2. Let a child keep score. Game Night's phone score sheet for dice games has the child do the adding, so the youngest who can count has a job.
3. Start short. One quick game, such as Charades or a Trivia round, then a longer one.

4. Mix the teams so the youngest is never on their own against the oldest.
5. End on a trick. Someone shows the family a magic trick they practised that week.

Game Night keeps the rules for its games, so nobody argues about them. Everything here is free through the end of 2026, with no ads, no sign-up and nothing to download.

Questions parents ask

What are good family game night games with young kids?

Charades, riddles, memory match and tic-tac-toe work from about 5. From 7, add a Trivia round and a dice game kept by Game Night's scorer.

Do we need to buy a board game?

No. Charades, Trivia, riddles and the paper games need only this page, a printer or a pencil.

How long should a family game night be?

An hour suits most families with young children: two or three short games, and stop while everyone still wants more.

Is it free?

Yes. Everything here is free through the end of 2026, with no ads, no sign-up and nothing to download.

Free at peabody.kids/family-game-night-games