New Year's activities for kids

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For New Year's Eve with kids, play games before the countdown: charades, trivia and a family game night. Run the countdown on a picture timer, tell New Year's jokes, and hold it early for children who cannot stay up. Every page here is free.

For the last night of the year, and the first morning

- Activity: New Year's jokes for kids · When: Any time · What a child does: Tell a joke about clocks, calendars and staying up late.
- Activity: Picture timers · When: The countdown · What a child does: Run a countdown with a picture timer.
- Activity: Charades · When: Before midnight · What a child does: Act out words for the room to guess.
- Activity: Family game night games · When: Before midnight · What a child does: Play a family game, a child keeping score.
- Activity: Trivia · When: Before midnight · What a child does: Answer rounds for the whole table.
- Activity: Coloring pages · When: Early evening · What a child does: Color a picture for the wall.
- Activity: The Kitchen · When: Early evening · What a child does: Make a snack for the countdown.
- Activity: Short bedtime stories · When: Early night · What a child does: A story for a child who will not make it to midnight.

Ways to make the countdown fit

- If your child…: Is too young for midnight · Try: A countdown at 7 p.m. with a picture timer, then a story
- If your child…: Wants to stay up · Try: Family game night games and charades
- If your child…: Likes to draw · Try: A picture of the year on the Art Studio
- If your child…: Likes jokes · Try: New Year's jokes

New Year's Eve is the night of Thursday, December 31, 2026 and New Year's Day is Friday, January 1, 2027. Everything here is free through the end of 2027, with no ads, no sign-up and nothing to download.

Questions parents ask

What can kids do on New Year's Eve?

Play games before the countdown: charades, a family game night, trivia, and a countdown run on a picture timer.

What can young kids do who cannot stay up?

Hold the countdown early with a picture timer, then read a bedtime story.

What are some New Year's jokes?

Forty jokes with answers, with the answers read aloud.

Are these free?

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Free at peabody.kids/holidays/new-years-eve/activities