

## 10 WAYS DADS AND DAUGHTERS CAN CONNECT

1. Make messages of kindness together. Write down messages or kind thoughts about different members of your family and hide them around the house for members of your family to find. You will be teaching your daughter the impact that unsolicited kind words and thoughts can have.
2. Help your daughter read and understand newspaper headlines. Ask her to pick a news story that is interesting to her. Talk to her about the article she chose. It could be a great opportunity to open her eyes to word affairs.
3. Go on an adventure walk or hike with your daughter. Count how many animals or insects you see. Look for spider webs, bird nests, or anthills. See if you or your daughter can name the plants you see during your walk.
4. Create a collage of memories of your family. Gather old photos or birthday cards and other memorable items and paste them together on poster board. Ask your daughter if she remembers all of the events. Talk about your favorite times together.
5. Listen to your daughter's favorite music with her. Ask her why she likes the bands and artists she likes. Learn the words to the songs that she listens to and ask her what they mean to her. Talk about the music you listened to when you were her age. What was popular then compared to what is popular now?
6. Take your daughter with you to get the oil changed or ask her to help you out when you do it. Talk about the importance of car safety and maintenance. This might not sound like a fun thing to your daughter, but showing her this when she is young and reinforcing it through the years increases the chances that she will practice car safety and be more aware of car maintenance.
7. Volunteer for an event together. Do a stream cleanup or tree planting project together. Check your local or community newspaper for listing of volunteer activities. This will teach your daughter the rewards of volunteering and the importance of community.
8. Visit your local library together. Pick out books on topics that you and she are not quite sure you are interested in and explore them. The best thing about libraries is that the books and the knowledge are free! If she didn't like the book or the topic, just return it! No questions asked. This is a great way to explore ideas and learn about topics without spending any money.
9. Research your family history and create a family tree. You can dig up old family books, pictures, and other memorabilia to help you. Ask your daughter to interview her grandparents or other relatives so that she can be an authority on some of the branches of the tree. This is a great way to spend time together while learning all about your family.
10. Learn how to read a map together. Work on the basics of map reading and plan a biking, inline skating, or hiking trip together. Identify landmarks and pay attention to elevation levels. Show her how to determine which way you are going and how to calculate mileage.