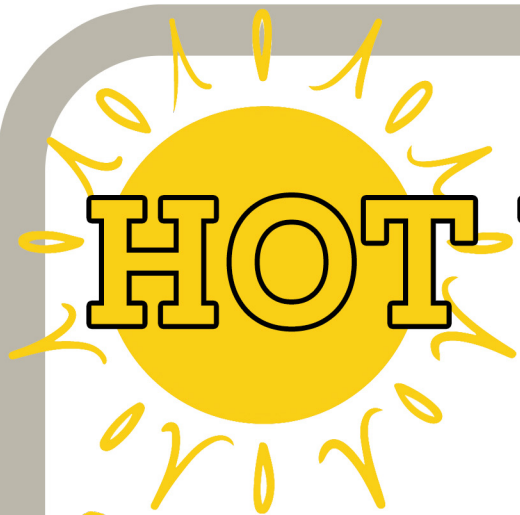




HOT WEATHER

nature play ideas

- 1 Mix up potions in old jars, adding petals, leaves and grass to water to create your own magical brews.
- 2 Create a shady cubby to play in out of the heat of the sun.
- 3 Take an early morning walk. How many different bird calls can you hear? Can you imitate them?
- 4 Use a bucket of water and a large paintbrush to paint a fence or wall. Watch what happens to your painting.
- 5 Create a drip castle by mixing a slurry of beach sand and lots of water. Grab a fistful of the slurry and let it drip through your fingers to form stalagmite-like stacks on top of each other.
- 6 Find some fallen pieces of bark and decorate them. You might like to use crayons, markers or paint.
- 7 Put out a dish of water for birds and insects to take a drink. Watch from a distance to see who comes to visit.
- 8 Find a shady spot to sit and play I Spy with a friend.
- 9 Make a leaf boat to float in a shallow tub of water or in a puddle left by your garden sprinklers.
- 10 Go for a neighbourhood walk in the early evening, taking turns to talk about your favourite moment from the day.
- 11 On your watering days, play under the sprinklers while the garden gets a drink. This is the perfect way to start or end a hot day in WA!
- 12 Enjoy an evening family picnic in the backyard or at a local park.
- 13 Use large ice cubes as “paintbrushes” to draw on warm concrete, rocks or tree trunks.
- 14 Find a shady spot to sit still. Close your eyes and listen for three different sounds. Do they sound close or far away? Are they loud sounds or quiet sounds?
- 15 Build a sand castle and decorate it with shells, seaweed and other natural treasures.
- 16 Read your favourite book while relaxing under the shade of a tree.
- 17 Head out in the early evening to water the garden.
- 18 Gather a basket full of nature’s treasures such as feathers, shells, leaves, pebbles and gumnuts, and take them indoors for loose parts play when it is very hot.
- 19 Wash your toys with water in a bucket outside. You might like to add a little dishwashing liquid for some bubbly fun!
- 20 Watch a sunset - noticing the moment the sun disappears and what changes around you as the daylight fades.
- 21 Visit a play space with water play. Find one near you with the interactive Play in WA Map: <https://www.natureplaywa.org.au/play-in-wa/>

