

Fifty Things Mentors & Mentees Can Do Together

It is helpful to remember that the main ingredient in a mentoring relationship is your presence. You don't have to teach or counsel or do anything that sounds "mentor-like." Your primary goal in a mentoring relationship is to be a friend. Once the relationship is established, mentoring just "happens."

The following is a list of activities that may give you some ideas of things you and the young person you are mentoring can do together. Some of these activities are just for fun; others provide opportunities for instruction and learning. This list is not exhaustive, so add your own ideas to it.

1. Go to a ball game.
2. Have devotions.
3. Go bowling.
4. Work on a service project.
5. Go to a movie or rent a video with another pair. Discuss it afterward.
6. Go on a hike or cross-country skiing with another pair.
7. Ride bikes.
8. Go to the mall.
9. Volunteer at or collect items for a homeless shelter.
10. Build a model airplane.
11. Play computer games.
12. Be a chauffeur for the young person and his or her date.
13. Wash a car—yours, the young person's, or even someone else's.
14. Visit a college.
15. Read through a book of the Bible. Try using Eugene Peterson's *The Message*.
16. Do the young person's chores.
17. Cook a meal.
18. Go fishing.
19. Fly a kite. Better yet, build your own kite and fly it.
20. Give the young person music lessons, or have him or her give you lessons.
21. Attend a concert.
22. Play video games.
23. Go bungee jumping.
24. Play laser tag.
25. Work through a Bible study book.
26. Bake and decorate a birthday cake for someone.
27. Play a round of golf.
28. Go to an amusement park.
29. Go camping with another pair or with your family.
30. Chop wood.
31. Go hunting with a camera.
32. Fix a meal for a shut-in and deliver it.
33. Exercise at the gym.
34. Play board games.
35. Make a quilt.
36. Go rock climbing.
37. Read a novel. Discuss.
38. Visit a museum.
39. Share baby pictures.
40. Pass a shared journal back and forth.
41. Go swimming.
42. Secretly mow someone's lawn while the person is away.
43. Make a video.
44. Start a "Breakfast and Bible Study" group.
45. Make a snowman or go sledding.
46. Go for a walk in the park.
47. Go to the airport and try to figure out where everybody is from.
48. Do homework.
49. Visit someone in the hospital.
50. Introduce the young person you are mentoring to your family.

Adapted from McPherson, Miles with Wayne Rice. *Mentor Handbook*. David C. Cook Publishing Company. 1995

Fifty CMCL Activities for Mentors & Mentees

The following list of ideas for things to do as mentor pairs have all been tried by at CMCL. This list was generated by persons who attended the mentor luncheon on Sunday, April 7, 2002.

1. Go to Ephrata Rec Center and play Racquetball.
2. Attend a school sporting event.
3. Bake Christmas cookies.
4. Make paper.
5. Attend Imax at Whitaker Center in Harrisburg.
6. Browse magazines with coffee at Borders or Barnes and Noble.
7. Have breakfast after church.
8. Do an art project.
9. Attend a movie of mentee's choice.
10. Work together on a service project.
11. Participate in "Living the Dream" day.
12. Hang out downtown.
13. Watch Super Bowl, perhaps with mentor's spouse.
14. Attend Theatre of 7th Sister production.
15. Hike at Kelley's Run or other rec areas along Susquehanna River.
16. Make candy together.
17. Visit local gallery shows.
18. Plan a trip to Ikea (Baltimore or King of Prussia).
19. Work together at "Dinner Out."
20. Attend a Ted & Lee show.
21. Attend youth productions of local theatre companies.
22. Create a labyrinth.
23. Lead worship together.
24. Go tubing on the Pequea River with a group.
25. Attend a concert.
26. Hike at Shenk's Ferry Wildflower Preserve.
27. Hike at Landis Woods near Neffsville.
28. Create and watch homemade videos.
29. Play cards and have snacks with another mentor pair.
30. Attend a Barnstormers game.
31. Play miniature golf.
32. Attend a mentee's family celebration.
33. Invite mentee to hang out a mentor's house—playing with children, street hockey in driveway etc. (not just alone)
34. Go fishing.
35. Plan a bike ride together.
36. Have meal at different ethnic restaurants.
37. Sit together at church.
38. Take the train to Philly with several mentor pairs for a day in the city.
39. Ask what's happening at youth activities or youth Christian Ed class.
40. Bake a loaf of bread for someone with an ongoing illness or new baby.
41. Use photography to explore a new or old place.
42. Offer to show a new CMCL family around the church.
43. Coat chocolates to donate for a MOOS sale.
44. Help with spring cleaning day at the church.
45. Volunteer at the Material Resource Center.
46. Usher at the Fulton.
47. Have ice cream at Carmen & David's or attend the monthly Pride Bingo there.
48. Volunteer at the Ten Thousand Villages International Festival
49. Attend a yoga class.
50. Arrange a group outing with Mennonite Historical Society.

Fifty Questions to Ask When Things Get Boring

There may be occasions when you get together with your young person and get stuck for something interesting or clever to say. After "Hi, how are you?" the conversation just dies and you sit there staring at each other. Well, don't worry if that happens. Sometimes silence is golden. But it might help if you take a couple of the following questions along with you just in case. A single question can sometimes lead to all sorts of interesting dialogue. But you don't want to drop questions like bombs on the kid. Find a way to ask them in the context of whatever you are doing or to give a reason why a question is important or interesting to you. You don't want your young person to think that you are interrogating him or her. Remember-any question you ask of someone else, you should be willing to answer yourself.

1. What is your earliest memory?
2. If you could star in a movie, what would the movie be about?
3. If you could give your parents anything for Christmas, what would it be?
4. What gives you a lot of energy?
5. How are you creative?
6. What was your favorite TV show when you were eight years old?
7. If you could marry the perfect person, what would he or she be like?
8. If you could be a famous person, who would you like to be?
9. If you won the lottery, what would you do with the money?
10. What is your pet peeve?
11. What is the funniest joke you've ever heard?
12. What do you think your friends say about you when you're not around?
13. What do you think is the best age to get married?
14. What really makes you mad?
15. When was the first time you ever fell in love?
16. If you could plan your family's summer vacation, what would you do?
17. What do you think is the perfect age?
18. How would you like to be remembered after you die?
19. What is something that you are really proud of?
20. Is there one day in your life that you would like to live over?
21. If you had three wishes, what would they be?
22. Do you think criminals are treated fairly?
23. Do you think Christians should be different from other people?
24. Is there a skill or hobby that you would like to learn?
25. What superpower do you wish you could have?
26. What is the best movie you've ever seen?
27. Have you ever had a recurring dream? If so, what is it?
28. Who do you consider to be a hero? Why?
29. What are your fears?
30. If you could live anywhere, where would it be?
31. Where are your ancestors from?
32. What kinds of things do you like to read?
33. Do you know anyone serving in the military?
34. Do you have other names for God?
35. What do you think is hard about being a police officer?
36. If you could help someone become better at something, what would it be?
37. What part of the world would you like to visit?
38. Who is your favorite relative? Why?
39. Describe a perfect day.
40. What do you like most about yourself?
41. If you could live at any time in history, when would it be?
42. What do you think happens after you die?
43. Do you think life should be "fair"? Has it been fair to you? Explain what you think fairness is.
44. What do you like best/least about church?
45. What is your favorite food?
46. If you could do anything in the world, what would you do?
47. What song do you think should get the award for number one song of all time?
48. Who has been your best friend ever?
49. If you could be any animal in the world, which one would you be?
50. What do you think of TV evangelists?

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