With kids being off from school, many are asking, HOW WILL WE KEEP THEM BUSY? Well, below is a list of ideas on how to keep yourself and / or the young ones in your family engaged and entertained.

## Storytime's & Book Readings

<u>Author Mac Barnett</u>: Most days at 3pm, Mac Barnett reads his books on Instagram Live. <u>Author Monique Gray Smith</u>: Reads her books and shares the videos on Instagram Live. <u>Author Oliver Jeffers</u>: Every weekday at 2pm, Oliver Jeffers reads one of his books on Instagram Live.

<u>Author Peter H Reynolds</u>: Every weekday at 3pm, Peter Reynolds will read one of his books on Facebook Live.

Jbrary: A directory of online story-times and resources for songs and rhymes.

<u>OperationStoryTime</u> on Instagram: Search #operationstorytime on social media to find authors reading their works online.

<u>Penguin Kids</u>: Every weekday at 11am, Penguin Kids will share a read aloud on Instagram Live.

<u>SAG-AFTRA Foundation</u>: Listen to famous actors and personalities like Betty White, Oprah, and Kristin Bell read children's books.

## Zoos, Museums & Other Experiences

<u>Cincinnati Zoo</u>: Facebook Live videos highlighting a new animal each weekday at 3pm, and shared via YouTube after the live stream.

<u>Exploring by the Seat of Your Pants</u>: Live free events with scientists and explorers around the world, hosted Live on YouTube.

<u>San Diego Zoo</u>: Live cameras in various zoo exhibits, paired with educational resources. <u>Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History</u>: Self-guided tours of select current and past exhibits.

## Activities, Curriculum, Lessons & More

<u>All Kids Network</u>: Crafts, worksheets, colouring pages, printable mazes, dot to dots, and more.

<u>Bedtime Math</u>: Daily prompts to make math easy and fun to talk about. Try adding into your bedtime routine!

<u>CBC Curio.ca</u>: Online streaming platform, currently with complimentary access, with collections of educational videos.

<u>Funbrain</u>: Online games, books, and activities divided by grades K-8.

The Kennedy Centre presents Lunch Doodles with Mo Willems: Draw, doodle and explore new ways of writing by visiting Mo's studio virtually once a day for the next few weeks. Khan Academy: A non-profit providing free education through fun lessons, like "Imagineering in a Box."

<u>Learn at Home</u>: Resources for elementary and secondary students from the Ontario Ministry of Education.

Math Playground: Free online math games and puzzles, for grades 1-6.

NASA STEM @Home: Science, tech, engineering, and math activities for families with kids in grades K-4.

<u>PBS Kids Design Squad Global</u>: Videos, games and design challenges to promote engineering and design skills.

<u>Pete the Cat, Harper Collins Children's Books</u>: Songs, videos, and activities about everyone's favourite cat.

<u>Scholastic Learn at Home</u>: Day-by-day projects to keep kids reading, thinking, and growing. <u>Seussville, Random House Children's Books</u>: Activities, crafts, and printables.

<u>Todd Parr Fun!</u>: Printable and online activities from always positive author Todd Parr. Be sure to check out the Things That Make You Feel Good activity book.

<u>Vroom by Bezos Family Foundation</u>: A free app and website with brain building tips for kids 5 and under.

I hope you and your family find this list helpful and entertaining. Feel free to pass it on to whoever you think will also enjoy trying some.