



# Disney World LEARNING IDEAS



Disney days are already packed with magic, but with a little intention, they can be packed with meaningful learning too. These simple, no-prep ideas are designed to help you make the most of those in-between moments: while waiting in line, walking to your next attraction, or taking a snack break. You don't need worksheets or a backpack full of supplies, just your curiosity, a little imagination, and maybe a touch of pixie dust.

- ☐ Write a creative writing story about what it would be like to live in a tree house like the Swiss Family Robinsons

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- ☐ Write some jokes for the Jungle Cruise

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- ☐ Study inventions showcased in Spaceship Earth—what do we still use today?

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- ☐ Identify literary genres represented in rides (e.g. fairy tale, sci-fi, adventure)

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- ☐ talk about the chemistry behind how fireworks work

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- ☐ Write postcards from each park

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- ☐ Write a letter or short story to a character and bring it to them

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- ☐ Interview a cast member and write a paragraph about them (i.e. where are you from, what do you like to do, etc)

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- ☐ Bring a USA map- every time you meet a cast member from a different state, check that state off the map

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- ☐ Practice skip counting with ride wait times

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- ☐ Learn about money by budgeting snacks or souvenirs

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- ☐ Talk to EPCOT's cultural representatives and learn about their countries

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- ☐ Find each country on a map after visiting EPCOT

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- ☐ Learn how to say "hello" in each EPCOT World Showcase language

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- ☐ Compare architecture styles in different countries

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- ☐ Watch the American Adventure show and discuss U.S. history

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- ☐ Discuss different time zones and how jet lag might feel to Disney guests from around the world

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- ☐ make a tally chart of mickey ears, matching shirts, characters, mickey balloons, and cast members. Then make it into a bar graph

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- ☐ Join the Wilderness Explorers at Animal Kingdom

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- ☐ Observe animals at Animal Kingdom, document where they are from, how they move, what they eat, what they're habitat is like etc.

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- ☐ Brainstorm inventions after riding the Carousel of Progress
- ☐ Find the letters and numbers in Toy Story Land (older kids can make words with the ones they see)
- ☐ Join a dance party in Animal Kingdom- i.e. Viva Gia
- ☐ Practice Spanish with Mirabel and Elena of Avalor
- ☐ Use the maps to practice map reading skills
- ☐ Graph wait times
- ☐ Create your own design for a parade float
- ☐ Go to the animation experience at Animal Kingdom- then draw an animal at the Affection Section
- ☐ Learn about horticulture, agriculture, and aquaponics at Living with the Land
- ☐ Design a ride for a movie that does not have one yet
- ☐ Explore force and motion by talking about how roller coasters like Big Thunder Mountain work
- ☐ Learn about the water cycle at the Journey of Water
- ☐ Talk about how movies are made from storyboarding to costuming to filming to editing at Hollywood Studios
- ☐ Observe forced perspective in Galaxy's Edge or Hollywood Boulevard
- ☐ Learn how music changes a scene's mood in ride queues or shows



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- ☐ Learn about historical Hollywood and how early films were made
- ☐ Observe costume design and guess what materials might have been used
- ☐ Create a food web of the animals you observe throughout the day
- ☐ Try foods from different countries and discuss the differences
- ☐ Learn a new dance with Mirabel in EPCOT
- ☐ Play "once upon a time" - a story passing game while you wait in line
- ☐ How many animals can you count carved into the Tree of Life
- ☐ Do a "character traits" scavenger hunt: find examples of bravery, kindness, curiosity, etc. in characters you meet or see in shows
- ☐ Explore symmetry and patterns in park design (like the Hub and Spoke layout)
- ☐ Sketch a famous landmark from each country
- ☐ Estimate and measure walking distances between attractions (math + geography)
- ☐ Study sound design: listen to how different "lands" have unique background music and ambient noises
- ☐ Count how many instruments you can identify in a live performance
- ☐ Choreograph your own dance inspired by a show you just saw
- ☐ Plan a budget for your snack day using real menu prices





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- ☐ Notice how lighting changes the mood of different rides and lands
- ☐ Create texture rubbings of the ground in each land
- ☐ Visit the interactive exhibits at Spaceship Earth or Journey Into Imagination
- ☐ practice narrating your day
- ☐ Document the wait times verses the expected wait times and compare- then after you have enough data, start making predictions
- ☐ Practice your acting at Enchanted Tales with Belle

These ideas are perfect for sparking conversations, building memories, and turning park time into learning time without making it feel like school. If you're looking for even more hands-on activities, both in the parks and at home, you'll love our park activity journals and themed unit studies. They're designed for families who want to make learning fun, memorable, and truly magical.

Here's a small sneak peek at the kinds of activities you'll find in one of our unit studies, The Magic Within. If your kids love Encanto, they might just fall in love with learning all over again. This study blends hands-on activities, storytelling, and subjects like science, geography, reading, character building, and more. It's just one example of how we bring the magic home and turn screen time into meaningful learning.

Ready to see how magical homeschooling can be?



# Casita Creations

In the movie Encanto, Casita is a magical house that responds to the family's emotions, needs, and personalities. It's more than just a building, it's part of the family. Casita helps the Madrigals live, grow, and support each other. This activity helps you reflect on what makes a house feel like a home and how our surroundings can reflect who we are.



Paper or construction paper  
Markers, crayons, or colored pencils  
Optional: glue, scissors, magazine cutouts,  
or craft supplies for building a 3D model



## Design Your Own Magical Home

- Draw your dream version of Casita, a home that reflects your personality, emotions, and talents.
- Think about what makes you you: your favorite hobbies, your role in your family, what makes you feel safe and happy.
- Add features that would help support your family, like rooms that change, secret hideaways, or spaces that grow flowers when someone is happy.
- **BONUS:** Build a 3D version of your home using recycled materials, blocks, or modeling clay.

## Label and Describe

- Give each special room or feature a name. For example: "The Cozy Library of Dreams," "The Bubble Bath Slide Room," or "The Room of Rainbows."
- Write a few sentences describing what each room does or why it's meaningful.

## Reflection Questions:

- What makes a house feel like a home to you?
- How would your magical house help your family feel loved and supported?
- How do our environments reflect who we are?
- Compare your design with a friend or sibling's and discuss how different people's homes might reflect their personalities.



# Casita Creations





This image shows a full page of white paper with horizontal blue ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There is no handwriting or other markings on the paper.



# Animal Communication

## How Animals Talk Without Words

Did you know animals have their own special ways of “talking” to each other?

Even though they don’t use words like people do, animals use sounds, smells, body movements, and colors to send messages. This is called animal communication, and it helps them survive in the wild.

Animals use communication to:

- Warn others of danger
- Protect their space or group
- Find a mate
- Tell others where food is
- Stay together in families

Each species has its own style. For example, bees dance, wolves howl, dolphins whistle, and peacocks show off their colorful feathers.

# Animal Communication

## Spotlight Animal: The Howler Monkey

In the rainforests of Colombia, lives one of the loudest land animals in the world, the howler monkey! These monkeys are known for their deep, booming calls that can be heard from over 3 miles away.

Why do they howl?

Howler monkeys howl to:

- Claim their territory and warn other groups to stay away
- Talk to their family group and keep everyone together
- Say good morning as the sun rises, their calls often echo through the forest at dawn!

They have special throat bones that act like natural amplifiers, making their voices louder than most animals their size.





# Monkey Messages Game

## Objective:

Explore nonverbal communication by trying to send messages using only sounds and movements, just like animals do!



## Materials:

- Open space
- Printable monkey cards (optional) or ideas listed below
- Your voice and body!

## How to Play:

Pick a few different messages an animal might send, such as:

- "There's danger nearby!"
- "Come here!"
- "This is my space!"
- "I found food!"

Challenge the kids to act out or make sounds to send each message without using words, just like a howler monkey, bird, or insect might.

Optional twist: Have one person be the "monkey" and the others try to guess what the message is. Then switch!

## Discussion Questions:

How did it feel to try to communicate without words?  
What kinds of body language or sounds helped the most?  
Why is communication so important for animals like monkeys?