

Available Resources in Response to COVID-19

Virtual Mentorship

How to communicate with your Little virtually?

1. *Phone/Text/Apps* ([Rocket.Chat](#), [Ez Texting](#), [Facebook Messenger Kids](#), [What's App](#), [Google Hangouts](#), [Google Duo](#))
2. *Postal Mail* – Write letters back and forth!
3. *Email*
4. *Video chat* via Facetime, [Zoom](#), [Skype](#), or [GoToMeeting](#)

Tips for Connecting With Your Little Virtually:

- **Make a plan!** It's so important that you, your Little, and your Little's parent/guardian establish how and when you and your Little will communicate!
- **Be Consistent!** Many matches set a weekly time that they connect with their Little. Consistency during this difficult time is a major key to the strength of your relationship with your Little. Show them you're there for them even when you can't see each other in person!
- **Have fun!** While all of us, including your Little and their families, are going through a difficult time, it's important to provide some fun and positivity for your Little! Sometimes talking to a young person on the phone can prove challenging as conversations can sometime seem dry or unproductive. If this is the case with your Little, make sure to include activities like the ones below and to ask fun questions to keep your Little engaged! (Check out [this site for funny question](#) inspiration!)
- **Be Open!** Don't be afraid to try something new with your Little! The activities below are most likely going to be new to you or your Little, and might even feel a bit uncomfortable because it's outside of the norm of what you usually do together. This is okay! It's totally normal to feel a little awkward, but we encourage you to push through and encourage your Little's openness as well!

Virtual Match Activities

In lieu of in-person activities, we, along with many other BBBS agencies, have found a bunch of "virtual match activities" you & your Little can do together! Not every suggestion works equally well for all ages, although many can be adapted nicely for a wide age-range. Try them out by asking your Little what they'd like to try, and feel free to try games and activities your Little shares with you! Let us know your favorites, any enhancements you might make, and any new ideas you can share. We deeply appreciate your feedback as we are all learning as well!

- Make a meal ([America's Test Kitchen](#))
- Homework help ([List](#))

- Scavenger hunt ([Education World](#))
- Craft activity ([Happiness is Homemade](#))
- Virtual Book Club ([Libby](#), [Hoopla](#))
- Concerts ([List](#))
- Museum/Park visit ([List](#))
 - And these:
 - [National Air Force Museum](#)
 - [Yellowstone National Park](#)
 - [Boston Children's Museum](#)
- Zoo visit ([National Zoo](#), [San Diego Zoo](#))
- Online games ([PBS](#), [Gamesgames.com](#))
- Exercise ([National 4-H](#), [We Are Teachers](#)): Make an exercise plan together and either do it simultaneously, or create a competition to see who spends the most time moving, or completes the on-line class, etc.
- Watch a movie ([Kanopy](#), [Netflix Party](#))
- Write a cooperative journal ([Storybird](#))
- Digital photography ([National 4-H](#))
- Puzzles ([The Spruce Crafts](#))
- Create your own crossword for your Little ([Crossword Labs](#))
- Learn to dance ([CLI Studios](#))
- Learn to draw ([Lunch Doodles](#))
- Learn a new language ([duolingo](#))
- Learn coding ([Code.org](#))
- Post curriculum/activities to [Google Drive](#)
- Game apps (can be played on many smart phones or tablets)
 - Words With Friends
 - Boggle With Friends
 - Game Pigeon
 - Meme Wars
 - Draw Something
 - Check out [this site](#) for game app ideas!
- Explore the globe - Find and send images or facts about places your Little might be interested in learning more about. Then he or she can do the same on another topic and teach YOU a few things!

