



Big Brothers
Big Sisters.
OF THE LEHIGH VALLEY

THE **BIG** BOOK OF IDEAS 2022 EDITION



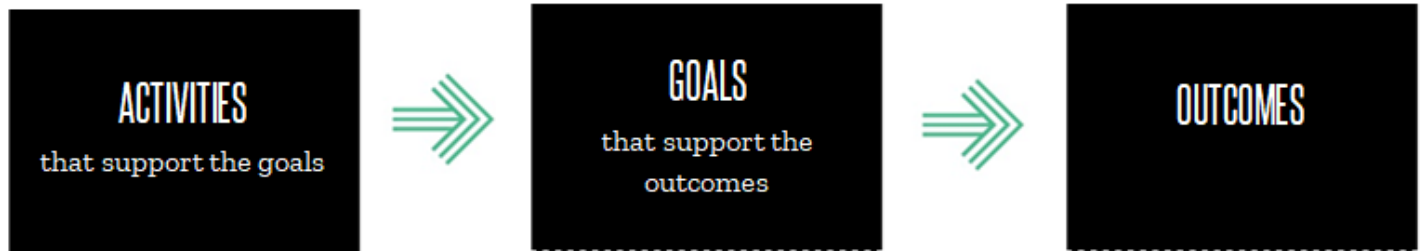
Just For Bigs

Don't forget to visit our [Just For Bigs](#) page on the BBBSLV website. On this page, you can find additional activity ideas, resources for working with youth, and details about all of our upcoming group match activities.

How do I choose match activities?

Being a Big is about both enjoying your time with your Little and achieving positive outcomes. Your Match Support Specialist will work with you, your Little and your Little's parent/guardian to identify goals for the match, which will likely fall into one or more of these three categories of:

- Avoidance of risky behaviors
- Educational Success
- Higher aspirations, greater confidence, and better relationships.



These categories represent the most common youth outcomes found as a result of effective mentoring. In general, youth-specific match goals are established to produce one or more of the youth outcomes. The activities you select should support those goals, which can produce the desired outcomes. You'll also want to spend time doing enjoyable relationship building activities with your Little, to help build your rapport and friendship.

Places To Go

Sporting Related / Physical Activities

- [Batting cages at Elite Sports Academy \(Emmaus\)](#)
- Take in a baseball game with the [IronPigs](#)
- [Score a goal with the Phantoms](#)
- Ice Skating
 - [The Rink at Lehigh Valley \(Whitehall\)](#)
 - [Steel Ice Center \(Bethlehem\)](#)
 - [Bethlehem Municipal Ice Rink](#)
 - [Easton Winter Village](#)
- Roller Skating
 - [Bethlehem Skateaway](#)
 - [Whitehall Skateaway](#)
- [FreeFall Trampoline Park](#)
- [Skyzone](#)
- [Urban Air Adventure Park](#)
- Mini Golf
 - [Putt U](#)
 - [Two T's](#)

Entertainment

- [Imagi Nation](#)
- [Lehigh Valley Laser Tag](#)
- [Captured LV Escape Room](#)
- [Lights in the Parkway \(Seasonal\)](#)
- [Dave & Buster's](#)
- [Back to the Arcade \(Retro Video Games\)](#)
- Watch a movie at a drive-in theatre
 - [Shankweiler's](#)
 - [Becky's](#)

Arts Related

- [Paintsome Pottery](#)

- [Color Me Mine](#)
- [Art Fusion](#)
- [Painting with a Twist \(Look for “All Ages” classes\)](#)

Educational / Cultural

- [Allentown Arts Walk](#)
- [The Market – Downtown Allentown](#)
- [SteelStacks](#) (Check for special free screenings of movies for children or discounted rate for children to attend.)
- [Banana Factory](#) (Check for low cost family classes.)
- [Crayola Experience](#)
- [Museum of Indian Culture](#)
- [Hugh Moore Park / National Canal Museum](#)
- [Mack Trucks Historical Museum](#)
- [Allentown Art Museum](#)
- [Mayfair Festival of the Arts at Cedar Crest College](#)

Typically over Memorial Day Weekend, this is a celebration of the arts with music, artwork to view, and food.

No cost entry and live music, although there are some special ticketed events.
- [Musikfest](#)

The always popular annual music festival held in August of each year! Enjoy walking around with your Little to take in the sights and listen to music.
- [Lost River Caverns](#)

Check out this underground cavern that is right here in the Lehigh Valley! Learn the difference between a stalactite and stalagmite. There is an approximately 30 minute underground tour.

Outdoors / Environmental

- [Klein Farms Dairy and Creamery](#)
- [Jacobsburg State Park](#)
- [South Bethlehem Greenway](#)
- [Saucon Rail Trail](#)
- [Lehigh Parkway](#)
- [Li'l-Le-Hi Trout Nursery](#) - Low cost food available to feed the fish!
- [Ironton Rail Trail](#)
- [Trexler Nature Preserve](#)

- [Allentown Rose Garden](#)
- [Wildlands Conservancy](#)
- [Nature Nurture Center](#)
- [Lehigh Valley Zoo](#)
- [Grim's Orchard](#) - In the summer, enjoy fresh fruit picking! In the fall, enjoy picking a pumpkin and then decorating it.
- On a hot day, enjoy an ice cream cone or sundae together! Here are a few of our favorite places:
 - [Premise Maid](#)
 - [The Udder Bar \(Allentown\)](#)
 - [Owowcow](#)
 - [Bethlehem Dairy Store](#)

50 Things to Do

1. Make [Stress Balls](#) together and talk about ways to calm down when tense and upset.
2. [Art for Kids – use these directed drawing videos to learn how to draw together.](#)
3. [Cosmic Kids Yoga](#)
4. [Enjoy learning Tik-Tok dances together](#)
5. [Virtual Museum Tour](#)
6. [Play a Kahoot game together](#)
7. Create [Kindness Rocks](#) together
8. Work on some [Basketball Drills](#)
9. Work on some [Soccer Drills](#)
10. Make some ever popular slime – [this time a fluffy variety!](#)
11. Bake – here is a [simple, single serve sugar cookie recipe!](#)
12. Learn to [finger knit together](#) and create your own unique projects.
13. Make hand-made gifts for loved ones/family to give for a special birthday present.
14. Have a snowman competition when it snows.
15. Paint and Relax: Work on a painting together (via zoom) while listening to your favorite music or eating your favorite snacks.
16. Start a bucket list for the new year.
17. Take walks to observe the winter landscapes
18. Stay active: challenge you and your Little to workout during the winter, or workout together
19. Observe your local Halloween parade (dates vary by town/city)
20. Plan a picnic at your nearby park with fall comfort foods
21. Visit the Lehigh Valley Mall for their Halloween costume parade/competition

22. Decorate pumpkins together
23. Work on your halloween costumes together
24. Visit your local library and explore all the magazines and books of interest
25. Attend a musical or play at a local high school
26. Visit a nearby college and learn about what undergraduate studies has to offer and how to apply during the fall
 - a. Nearby colleges include: Muhlenberg, LCCC, DeSales, Lehigh, Moravian
27. Make your own Scarecrow with household items
28. Make candy apples at home
29. Watch a movie together and then discuss your favorite and least favorite parts.
30. Write thank you cards to loved ones/friends for Thanksgiving
31. The Lehigh Valley is full of local colleges to explore! Use this College Scavenger Hunt to walk around and explore with your Little.
32. New Food Challenge: Pick a restaurant or type of cuisine that either you and your Little have never experienced and try it together.
33. Learn how to make an [origami heart bookmark](#). Or a [frog!](#)
34. Try some [STEM experiments](#).
35. Explore Winter Celebrations – research and learn about: Hanukkah, Christmas, Winter Solstice, Kwanzaa, Diwali, and the Chinese New Year.
36. Create “thinking of you” cards which can be distributed to local nursing homes to cheer up someone’s day.
37. Find a community service project to work on together. Visit volunteerlv.org for ideas.
38. Visit a coffee shop and play a board game together.
39. Pick out a new recipe and attempt to cook it together.
40. Create a scrapbook of match activities. Include photos, brochures, ticket stubs, etc.
41. Try out tie-dye together and dye a shirt, tote bag, or even socks!
42. Go fishing at a local lake, stream, or river.
43. Have a picnic at a nearby park.
44. Attend a fireworks show together.
45. Go bowling or horseback riding.
46. Work on a puzzle together.
47. Create pictures with melted crayons! (Take any wrapping off old crayons. Use a hairdryer to melt the crayons onto paper or cardboard to create a design.)
48. Make a [bath bomb](#).
49. Try out a fun science experiment by making [“elephant toothpaste.”](#)
50. Learn about [“stop motion animation”](#) and make a simple video.