
PLAYFUL



IDEAS

ENGLERT ORSI PHOTOGRAPHY & EDUCATION

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BABIES

0-18 month years old

Make a new or **funny sound** (like a buzz or a click).

Sneeze — either dramatically or adorably!

Use a baby toy, rattle, or any other sound-making object to catch their attention.



Use the parents — and all those little tricks they **know that always make their baby smile.**

Important: Position the parents where you want the baby to look. Their faces are your best “attention magnets.”





Oops! It Fell!

Place a stuffed animal on top of your camera (or even on your head!), then let it “fall off” with a funny sound. Babies love the surprise — and those giggles are gold!



Peekaboo!

Hide behind your camera or your hands, then pop out with a cheerful “peekaboo!”

Babies never get tired of this classic — it’s simple, fun, and always brings smiles.

Bubbles!

Blowing bubbles can be a great idea — just make sure to test it first and see how the baby reacts. Some love it, others... not so much!

Spin Time

Mom or Dad — pick up
your little one and give
them a gentle spin!
Just keep it at a speed
that feels fun and
comfortable for them.
The laughter and
movement always
make for beautiful,
lively shots.



Up in the Air!

Ask the parent to lift — or gently toss — the child up into the air. Babies and kids usually love this feeling of “flying,” and it always brings out the biggest smiles. Just make sure it feels safe and natural for everyone.



Little Explorer

Give the baby a simple toy or prop and let them engage with it in their own way. The curiosity and tiny movements they make often lead to the sweetest, most natural photos.



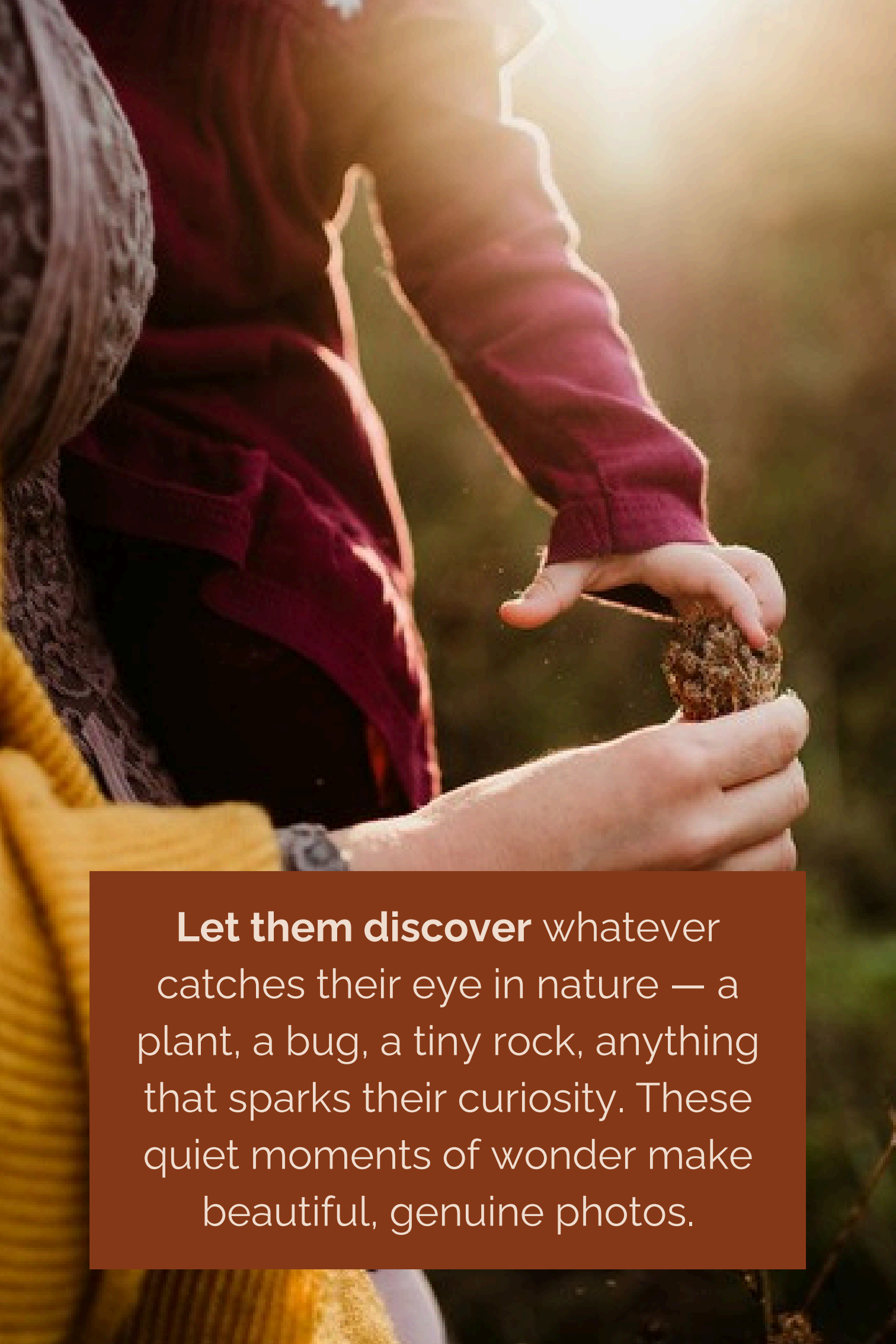
Nap Time

If they're getting sleepy, ask one of the parents to hold them close for a cuddle. And if they do drift off — capture it. Sleeping moments are pure magic and full of tenderness.



First Steps

Let them toddle around freely. Have one or both parents hold their hands for support — those wobbly little steps make for the sweetest memories.

A close-up photograph of a person's hands holding a small, dark, textured rock. The person is wearing a maroon long-sleeved shirt. The background is a bright, hazy outdoor scene with a large sun creating a lens flare effect. The overall tone is warm and natural.

Let them discover whatever catches their eye in nature — a plant, a bug, a tiny rock, anything that sparks their curiosity. These quiet moments of wonder make beautiful, genuine photos.



Kiss Sandwich

Give them a big kiss from both sides at the same time! It's sweet, funny, and always brings out those irresistible giggles.



It works beautifully with
siblings too!

Baby Scent Moment

Ask the parents to lean in close and take in that wonderful baby smell. You can even suggest they close their eyes while they do it — remind them it won't last forever.

It's such a tender, emotional moment to capture.







Tiny Toes Kiss

Have one parent hold the baby facing outward while the other gives a sweet kiss on those tiny feet — or even on the baby's tummy. It's playful, gentle, and full of love.

Hold and Hug

Pick up your little one and pull them in for a gentle hug. Softly rest your head against theirs — it's a simple gesture that speaks volumes.





Airplane Ride!

Lay on your back and lift the baby up on your legs — like a little airplane! It's fun, full of laughter, and always makes for joyful, dynamic photos.

Which Way Next?

BABIES

TODDLERS

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TODDLERS

1,5-3 years old

At this age, most toddlers can hardly stay in one place — photoshoots often turn into a bit of a chase! This is the stage where they completely run the show, and we just have to go with their flow. Be patient — it's all part of the fun.



Catch the Photographer!

Ask them to try and catch you! Whether you keep the parents in the background or not is up to you.

They can also run toward their parents afterward — either way, you'll capture pure joy in motion.

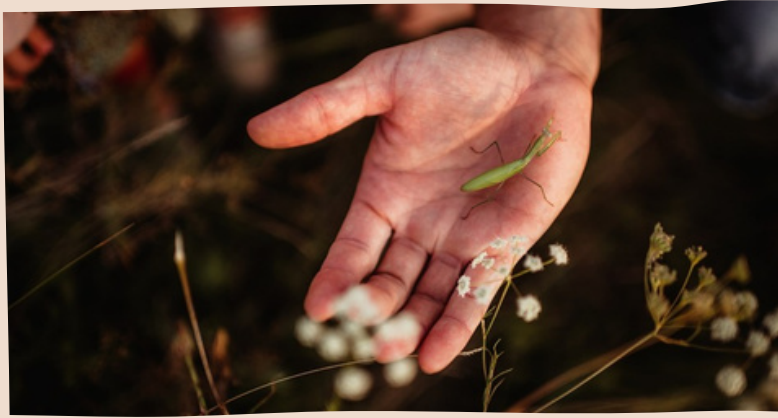


Play Hide and Seek!



Teapot Tilt

Lift the child up and gently tilt them toward the camera — as if you were pouring them out of a teapot! It's playful, unexpected, and always brings laughter.



Find Treasure

Whatever they discover — a rock, a flower, or a tiny bug — ask them to show it to you. Their proud little expressions make for the sweetest shots.



Simple Task

Give them an easy little mission — “Can you take that stick or flower to Mommy?”, “Can you throw this to me?”, “Show me how high you can jump!”, or “Can you stack three stones?”

Small challenges like these keep them engaged and create lovely, natural moments.



Passing Game

Gently toss or pass the child back and forth between the parents — safely, of course! It's full of movement, laughter, and pure connection.



Run underneath the blanket

Have the parents wave a blanket up and down while the child runs underneath — it's pure joy and full of movement!



Blanket Swing

Mom, Dad — sit the little one in the middle of the blanket, lift the corners, and gently swing them back and forth. It's always a hit and brings out the best giggles!

Leg Tunnel

Ask the parents to stand with their legs apart and have the child run through — it's simple, playful, and always full of laughter!



Picking Flowers





Dandelion Wishes

Kids love this one! Let them blow the dandelion seeds — or ask a parent to help if they're still little. It's gentle, magical, and always photogenic.



Animal Sounds

Make some funny animal noises and ask them to guess what you are!

Depending on their age (and your vision), you can play this one-on-one, with siblings, or even with the whole family while the kids sit on their parents' laps.

It's a great little trick to get them looking straight at the camera — and laughing while they do.





Animal Sounds

This game works great with families too.



Nature Tickles

Use the magical “tickle tools”
you can find in nature



They can tickle their parents, each other, or even you.

Which way next? ✨

BABIES

TODDLERS

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KIDS

3-10 years old

This age is pure fun — they
connect so easily.
Make the most of it!



You can use the ideas from the
toddler section here as well.



Solo Spin

Whether they do it on their own or with a little help from a parent, most kids absolutely love to spin!

"Can I see how your skirt twirls?"



Spin Time (Advanced Edition)

Dad, give them a big spin.

Dance Time

Dancing creates beautiful moments of connection. Just make sure everyone's comfortable with the idea — some families love it, others not so much.

I usually save it for the end of the session, when everyone's relaxed and the initial stiffness has melted away. It's definitely a family- and kid-dependent moment.



Dancing

Show me your wildest or coolest
dance moves!

*"Can you show me how you usually
dance?"*



If the family brings their dog along, it's a perfect chance for some fun, lively shots.

Ask them to show you a little "trick" their pup can do

Tickle Battle

You can use tickling anytime — sitting, standing, or in totally unexpected moments!

Go with the child's personality: if they're more sensitive, keep it gentle; if they're bold and playful, go all in.

Parents usually know what works best, so follow their lead for the perfect tickle battle!



Ask the parents to tickle the kids
at a totally unexpected moment.

Ask them to hide — but give them a **small area to do it** (the smaller, the easier for you!).

It could be in Mom's arms or behind a few tall plants



Try to hide so I can't take your picture!" — then add a few fun rules:
"You can only use the plants to hide... or Mom's lap... but no turning your back on me!"

Tender Moments

Sadness, tiredness, even tears
— they all happen during a
photoshoot.

Don't be afraid to capture
them. Years from now, these
images will mean so much —
showing the children that their
parents were always there
when they needed them.



Eskimo Kisses

Also known as “eskimo kisses” — it’s a sweet way to bring family members close together.



Try touching your noses together and giving each other tiny kisses — just like seals do!



Whisper a Funny Word

Whisper a silly word or phrase
to the child.

Daddy Attack

Have Dad kneel or squat down
— the kids' mission is to try and
knock him over!





Staring Contest

Look each other in the eyes — no
blinking, no smiling!
Who's going to win?

Which instrument are you?

Ask them what their favorite instrument is. Once they choose, pretend to turn them into it — then ask Dad to “play” a little tune!





Be the favorite character!

Imitate their favorite cartoon or movie character — or ask them to show you theirs!



Seven Touches Challenge

Sit the child on a parent's lap and say, "Let's see if you can handle seven gentle tickles without laughing!"



Windstorm

Run while holding the blanket high — make it float without letting it fall on your head!



Kiss Race

Hug Mom or Dad from both sides
and, on the count of three, give
them a big kiss!

Who's the fastest? Or who can
give the longest, loudest smooch?

Which way next



BABIES

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FAMILY





Chase the kids!

Line up the kids and parents in two rows.

Place the kids in front, and a few meters behind them, the parents. Count to three — and that's the cue for the chase to begin!

+Tip: If the kids are too fast, give the parents a little head start with a wink



Green, Yellow, Red Light

Have the family stand side by side, holding hands, and give them simple commands.

At green, they move forward; at yellow, they step back; and at red, they stop.

The faster you call out the commands, the funnier it gets for them — and that's when you'll capture the most dynamic, joyful shots.

Whisper Chain

Start a word (funny, secret, or favorite) on one end of the line and have it passed along by whispering from person to person.

The last one says out loud what they heard.

Perfect for capturing those intimate, heartfelt moments.



Ask for a giant family hug —
simple yet wonderful.



Who's the...?

Whose room is the messiest? Who eats the most? Who's the best cook? Who burps the loudest? You can ask as many fun questions as you like!

They can look, point, or even tickle the person they think fits the answer.

The moments before, after, and in between are all worth capturing.





Daddy Taxi

For little kids, ask the dad to pick them both up at once and run a few meters with them. :)





Round and Round

Ask the parents to stand close together or cuddle up.

Then tell the kids to chase each other around them, running in a circle that goes all the way around the parents.







Swing Time

As long as the kids' weight (and the parents' strength!) allows, have them swing the kids by their arms while walking.

Five steps forward — lift — and keep going!

It's important that the movement continues; that's what makes the photos look natural and full of energy.



Family Train

Ask the family to form a little “train” and make their way from point A to point B.

It can be a straight line — or you can have the kids “pull” the rest of the family off the field in a playful, messy way!



In this case, if the movement is directed toward you, position the family members in increasing height order.



Pile Up!

Encourage the kids to climb onto their parents' backs.



Sibling Tickle

Lift the kids up and help them reach their sibling for a playful tickle!

...or give them a big kiss instead.





Imitate your favorite animal!

You can use sounds or
movements — or both!



Even though the example photo doesn't include parents,
this can be just as funny when the whole family joins in.

Simple Walk

Ask them to simply walk from one spot to another.

It's an easy setup — and you can capture tons of great shots along the way.







Storyk

Kérd meg a szülőket, hogy meséljék el hogyan ismerkedtek meg, vagy meséljenek arról milyen volt amikor megszülettek a gyerekek és először meglátták őket, milyen vicces dolgokat mondtak, amikor kisebbek voltak...stb.



+Tip

Pay attention to the in-between moments too.

When it feels like “nothing’s happening,” that’s often when you can catch the most expressive shots — especially of the kids.







+Tip

Remind the parents that if one of their kids runs toward them during the session, they should always **welcome them with open arms.**



Family Dance

To help the parents loosen up, ask the kids to come up with a little choreography that everyone — including the parents — has to do together. You can jump in with a few ideas of your own too!

Which way next



BABIES

TODDLERS

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TEENS

For ages 12 and up

What I've found is that once you manage to break through that "wall," they can step out of the stubborn little bubble they love to stay in as teenagers — and from that point on, the photo session doesn't feel so intimidating for them.

And honestly, not for you either ;)

Classic Portrait

Start with this — it's something you can easily do with them at this age.

Ask them for a few classic portrait poses.



Siblings Only

Ask them, “What would you like to do together for a fun photo?”

If a hug feels too awkward, maybe the older one could give the younger a piggyback ride — or spin their little sister or brother around?

You can also use one of the classic seven prompts, or play the “Who’s the...?” game mentioned earlier.







The Negotiation

What do you get for doing the photo session?

If they haven't already, you can suggest they make a little deal with their parents about it.

What do I love about you?

(About Mom/Dad/siblings?) What's one annoying habit [name] has?

What do you think your parents should do less or more of?

These kinds of questions — especially the last one — almost always lead to funny moments at this age.

It's important to also ask about the positive things; that's how you keep everyone's emotions balanced during the shoot.

+Tip

The “Who’s the...?” game works great here too — just with a different set of questions.

For example:

Who’s on their phone the most?

Who turns everything into a life-or-death competition?

Who has the hardest time admitting when they’re wrong?

Who helps the most with housework? (Rhetorical question, of course ;))





For the final shots, take individual photos with each parent. Tease them a little by saying these are the last photos — and then they're free to go!

Parent Pranks

Stack pinecones on your
parents' heads.

You be the ones to pose
them this time!

Pretend you're the parents
and act out what life would
be like if things were the
other way around.

And ask: when do you think
Mom or Dad acts the most
embarrassing?



Their World

Signature Item

If they have something that really represents them — an instrument, a sports item, or anything they'd like to include — say yes to it!





Time to play!



I hope you've found these ideas helpful.
I can't wait to see you put them into
practice!