

With families across our great city of Los Angeles having to stay home and working from home, parents are finding themselves spending more time than ever with their children. And as the city of Los Angeles blocks off streets for a day, providing neighborhoods with safe streets for children's play and walks, here are some suggestions of time-tested sidewalk and street games for children and families.

### **Hopscotch**

This is the mother of all sidewalk games. Using sidewalk chalk a pattern is drawn on flat ground and players take turns tossing a pebble so that it lands in given spaces in the pattern. The player then hops on one leg in the pattern, picking up the pebble. For complete details on how to play you can go to [Play-Hopscotch](#).

### **Four Square**

Closely following hopscotch in popularity is the game Four Square. Many of us grew up school playgrounds that had Four Square layouts and spend endless recesses playing this great game. For complete details on how to play you can go to [Four Square](#).

### **Skelzie**

This is a popular game in New York that is said to have originated in Brookline. It's similar in concept to Hopscotch, but more complex with hidden "danger" zones that send you back to the beginning. For complete details on how to play you can go to [Skelzie.com](#).

### **Hit a Penny**

This is a lesser known game here in America, but it is enjoyed by countless children in Brazil, from where the game originates. The game involves placing a stick in the ground and putting a penny on top of the stick which is in the center of a circle drawn on the ground. Players take turns tossing another coin at the coin resting on the stick. Try to hit the coin so that it lands outside the circle. For complete details on how to play you can go to [Hit the Penny](#)

### **Sneaker Jump Test**

This is a super simple jumping game. See how far you can jump wearing sneakers, sandals (or dress shoes), and socks. For complete details on how to play you can go to [Sneaker Jump Test](#)

### **ABC Hop**

Using chalk, draw 24 circles or squares on the ground and place in each circle a letter of the alphabet. Have children hop on one leg from one circle to the other. In each new circle they have to call out a word that begins with the letter of their circle.

### **Sidewalk Twister**

With chalk, have a parent draw a Twister Board on the ground with at least four colors and four shapes. Then have a parent call out colors or shapes for the player to put the left or right hand or foot in. Add to the fun and laughs by making the players roar like a lion or laugh like their father in the blue square, etc.

### **Simon Says**

For years, this game has been a favorite of teachers across the nation. It's a fun game filled with laughs and help sharpen listening skills. For complete details on how to play you can go to [Simon-Says](#).