

Fun activities and games for online Homework Clubs

This is a list of ideas for fun activities that may be useful in an online homework club setting. Tutors are invited to take these as suggestions that can be modified to suit the students' needs and abilities.



ACTIVITIES	HOW CAN YOU DO THIS?
ICE BREAKERS / WIND DOWN	
Animals	<p>Pick a letter from the alphabet and set a time limit (10 seconds), when the time is up all students need to be impersonating an animal that starts with the mentioned letter. Have students name their animal. If two students are the same animal, they are out. Keep going using different letters each round. Continue until you have a winning student (or two)!</p> <p>Good for: thinking skills, vocab/spelling, movement and creativity</p> <p>Helps to: foster creative thinking, bond tutors and students</p>
Follow the leader	<p>Have students think of a physical action, call on a student to show their action to the group, which the group then mimics. Rotate through your students and their actions.</p> <p>Good for: movement skills</p> <p>Helps to: settle students and release built up energy</p>
What's in the bag? (Mystery item)	<p>Hide a mystery item in a bag. Have students ask questions about the object as they try and figure out what is hidden. You can set a time limit, or question limit to make this more challenging.</p> <p>Good for: questioning, inference and deducing skills</p> <p>Helps to: get students talking, encourage collaboration and team work</p>

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<p>Simon Says</p>	<p>The tutor says Simon Says followed by a command and the students need to follow the instructions. If the tutor doesn't say Simon Says (e.g. 'hands on head'), the students need to ignore the instructions to continue to be in the game.</p> <p>Good for: listening skills</p> <p>Helps to: focus students</p>
<p>Hang Man/Ants</p>	<p>Use a piece of paper that is visible on screen to the students. Pick a word and have students take turns guessing letters, if they get it correct the letter goes in its place within the word. If they get a letter wrong, it is drawn up on the side of the page and the hangman gets a body part drawn on.</p> <p>You can alter this to be more appropriate with young students. Instead of using a hangman, you can play 'Ants', where the body, legs, and antennae need to be drawn.</p> <p>Good for: team work, spelling, listening skills</p> <p>Helps to: encourage students to work together</p>
<p>Go Noodle</p>	<p>A great website that has little brain breaks and activities for groups of students to participate in. They have guided meditation, or activities to get kids bouncing and wriggling their energy out – something for all occasions!</p> <p>https://www.gonoodle.com/</p>
<p>Inquiry and elimination games</p>	<p>Students need to guess an object, person, animal or food using only yes/no questions.</p> <p>20 questions and Celebrity Heads are popular versions of this type of game.</p> <p>Good for: questioning, reasoning and listening skills</p> <p>Helps to: encourage students to work together</p>
<p>LEARNING ACTIVITIES</p>	
<p>Finish the sentence</p>	<p>The tutor begins with a sentence starter, and the children repeat what has been said, and add something on. A popular sentence starter that you may remember if you played this game: 'Today I'm going on a picnic and I will take with me a...'</p> <p>Good for: Listening and memory skills</p>

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	<p>Helps to: encourage creative and different ideas. Helps tutors learn about students</p>
What am I?	<p>The tutor has a number in their mind (or this can be physically written down), and the students take turns at guessing what it is, tutor can prompt with hints if needed. 'I am an even number, I am a multiple of 10' etc.</p> <p>Good for: numeracy skills, reasoning and questioning skills, team work</p> <p>Helps to: bond students as they work together to beat the tutor. Can identify gaps in students' knowledge</p>
Spelling or numeracy bingo	<p>Have students draw a 3x3 grid on a piece of paper or whiteboard. Have them write answers in their grid. If you are doing numeracy bingo, this may mean students write down nine answers to the seven timetables. The tutor then reads the problems aloud and students must work out the answer to cross it off their list. Once a student has a row crossed off, they call 'bingo!' and the tutor checks their answers.</p> <p>This can be played with spelling words, vocabulary words, or any terms that relate to a topic being taught.</p> <p>Good for: problem solving, spelling, listening skills</p> <p>Helps to: encourage students to have fun with their learning</p>
Scavenger hunt	<p>The tutor asks students to find something in their home. This can be altered to the ability levels of your students. 'Show me something that is soft and has the letter A in its name'.</p> <p>Good for: Listening skills, movement, language skills</p> <p>Helps to: get students up and about! It is a great brain break, or can be used as a targeted literacy activity</p>
Kahoot!	<p>An online quiz site where you set questions about a topic you've been working on, and set multiple choice answers. This is fun and interactive and students can be anonymous while using it. You can focus in on a key learning area, or make it a random quiz!</p> <p>Good for: testing for understanding. A great fun way to do pre</p>

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	<p>and post testing of a topic area</p> <p>Helps to: bring some fun into their learning</p>
Show & Tell	<p>Have students bring something to your online classroom that they share with the rest of the students. You can have a rotating roster as to which students will present at each online session.</p> <p>Good for: oral language, listening, and questioning skills</p> <p>Helps to: develop bonds between students and tutors, highlights student interests</p>
Listen and draw	<p>Picture dictation can be used to help students focus on language, for example colour, size, shape, topic words. It's always interesting to see how different students interpret the instructions!</p> <p>Eg. Draw a blue square at the top of your page, then draw a yellow star next to it.</p> <p>Good for: language, listening and drawing skills</p> <p>Helps to: develop language and listening skills while providing a fun and creative task</p>
Odd one out	<p>Play a game where you have a series of short lists where the student can identify the 'odd' word in the list.</p> <p>Eg. Big, small, large, huge.</p> <p>Good for: language and vocabulary development</p> <p>Helps to: build literacy skills</p>
Sketch to stretch	<p>An activity which involves listening to and retelling a story. The tutor reads a story to the student and then directs him/her to divide a paper into three parts. In the first section the student draws or writes what happened at the beginning of the story, in the last section they draw what happened at the end of the story, and then in the middle section they draw what happened in between.</p> <p>Good for: oral language, listening, recall and writing skills</p> <p>Helps to: a fun activity to work on many different literary skills</p>

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Change the ending	<p>Read a well-known story with your students, and have them re-write the ending with a different outcome.</p> <p>Good for: reading, listening, writing skills</p> <p>Helps to: foster creative thought through familiar stories</p>
1, 2, 3, show me	<p>Give students verbal math problems of a topic you are working on. Give the students in the group time to get to an answer. Once all students are ready, the tutor says '1, 2, 3, show me...' and they all hold their answers up to the screen. You can take turns to have students explain their workings and what strategies they used to get their answer.</p> <p>Good for: various numeracy skills, problem solving</p> <p>Helps to: consolidate learning of a specific topic</p>
Scrap art	<p>Using scrap materials from around the house, or collected from the garden or on a walk, students create an art piece.</p> <p>Good for: creativity and design skills</p> <p>Helps to: get students outside and thinking in a sustainable and creative mindset</p>
Science experiments	<p>Lead your students through a science experiment. You can send them instructions and create experiments that use everyday household items. They can follow along as you run the tutorial.</p> <p>Good for: scientific knowledge in specific learning areas, vocabulary</p> <p>Helps to: develop student understanding of science terms and topics, something that is often not done frequently</p>