

An off-screen weekend



Hayley and Amelia are twin sisters. They're thirteen and last weekend they decided to take on a challenge: no screens for two days. They did not turn on the TV, mobile phones or computers. So, what did they do?

They started Saturday doing sports. Hayley loves to play badminton and she invited her friend Amy to the park. Amelia was also in the park, riding her skateboard. After lunch, two sisters headed to their local Community Centre where they volunteered at an auction. People donated the things they did not need any longer, and others could buy them cheaply. The money they raised was for dog food at the local pet shelter. In the evening, they played board games with their cousin Matt who arrived from another town.

On Sunday morning, Hayley, Amelia and Matt visited the local Horror Museum. Then Hayley decided to go on a photo hunt, while Amelia and Matt window shopped at the local mall. They were with their friends the entire afternoon. They organized a party at which they swapped clothes, pooled their makeup to do makeovers and even prepared their own facial scrub from sugar and honey. Then they opened ten bags of M&Ms and played card games with candy as poker chips.

Matt didn't really like being off screen the whole weekend, but Hayley and Amelia enjoyed themselves. They wanted to do other things, too, but didn't have the time. Perhaps they will do another off-screen weekend and go to an amusement park, have a disco night, and play old fashioned games they discovered online, such as hopscotch, jump rope, hide and seek, hula hoop or marbles.

**Task:**

- 1 Brainstorm other off-line activities you can do.
- 2 Make a list to sort yours and twins' activities from most to least interesting.
- 3 Plan your own off-screen weekend doing the things you like.
- 4 Try it out and write about it.