

CREATIVE DATING

Do some sort of service project.

Spend a night baking cookies or cakes and deliver them to a widow or a friend.

Go to the hospital and read to some kids.

Have a foreign date where everything that happens on the date revolves around that country.

Have a soap carving contest.

Go to library, have girls pick out a children's book then the boys read it to the girl, (get more than one book and take turns reading them to each other).

Act out your favorite scripture.

Food ideas:

—progressive dinner with weird utensils

—spaghetti with no hands

—corn dog on the back of a motor cycle

—picnic on a ferris wheel

—candle light dinner in a hot air balloon

—pizza with chop sticks

—go repelling and have dinner utensils that you collect as you go down

—Go to a grocery store, blind fold your dates and everything they touch is what they get to eat.

—candle light dinner in a jail, dress in stripes

—dinner at the top of a bridge

—A waffle party: Hostess provides the waffle batter, drinks, and necessities.

—Have a Chinese dinner, buy chopsticks and fortune cookies and sit on the floor.

—Pots and pans dinner. Set a table with pans, spatulas and so on. The put a sheet over to hide the utensils. The couples won't know what is going on, so tell them to pick a seat. Serve spaghetti or something that is hard to eat. Make them eat with a spatula out of a frying pan. Serve drinks out of vases.

—A candlelight dinner on the steps of the State Capitol Building with waiters and violin music. (Keep the whole thing secret)

—Have a catered candlelight dinner in the mountains.

—Go up in the canyons and roast marshmallows and hot dogs. Sit around a campfire and sing songs.

—Get up early and go to breakfast (3:00 a.m.) to an all-night restaurant.

—Fix dinner together, gourmet things you've never eaten before.

—Have tinfoil dinners up in the canyon.

—Tell your date you are going to a deserted island for dinner and take them to an island in the middle of the road set up with a candlelight dinner.

—Set up a room in your house like an airplane, other rooms like Hawaii, Greece, Australia (safari), etc. Visit all these different countries for different courses of your meal.

—High altitude doughnut eating. String doughnuts from the ceiling.

Play variation sports: Blindfolded golf, three-legged soccer, water baseball, hockey with brooms, one armed volleyball etc.

Have a mini talent show.

Act out your favorite scripture story, use Readers' Theatre.

Have a finger painting party with your toes. Pudding can also be used in place of paint.

Buy coloring books and have a coloring contest.

Set up your own obstacle course with hula hoops, garbage cans, garden hoses, etc.

Have a Bible, Pearl of Great Price, Book of Mormon, or General Authority spelling bee.

Make paper mache sculptures. All you need is newspaper, -flour, and water.

Play a scripture chase game.

Refreshment ideas:

Make a giant size banana split. Fabricate a bowl that is the size of the entire table. Cut up bananas and make a giant banana split for your group to eat.

Have all the ingredients out to make cookies but no recipes. Divide into teams and make cookies. The team that makes the best cookies wins.

Bake some cookies and take them to the elderly

Have a tape-recording contest. See who can come up with the most unusual sounds.

Watch "Sesame Street", "Mr Rogers neighborhood", or Sat. Cartoons together.

Build a Snowman.

Golf in the snow with green or red balls.

Fly kites you made yourself.

Play three-legged basketball.

Have a Jell-O fight.

Go on a nature hike.

Have a treasure hunt in the canyon-clues - may be hidden in trees or under rocks. Use compass directions.

Eat breakfast at sunrise in the mountains or at a park.

Feed the ducks at a local park.

Have a water fight.

Go on a moonlight walk.

Play computer games.

Watch passing cars. Each person chooses a color. See who can count the most cars in their color.

Visit the temple.

Go to a "parade of homes"

Visit a hospital or nursing home.

Buy a model car or plane kit and assemble it.

Find a candy recipe. Go buy ingredients and make it

Work dot-to-dot, and hidden word puzzles.

Play TV games, The Price is Right, Family Feud

Read the scriptures together.

Put on a slide show of your date when he or she was little.

Have a popcorn or playdough sculpting contest.

Have a whipped cream fight (with pressure cans)

Bake cakes and decorate them blindfolded, with spatulas.

Go shopping and see who can find the weirdest and cheapest item for the other person.

Have a bubble-blowing contest with bubble gum.

Go on a dollar date. Do not spend more.

Buy birdseed and feed the birds in the park or marshmallows

Go on a date where neither of you can communicate verbally.

Have a paper airplane flying contest.

Play twister.

Have a soap carving contest.

Play catch with water balloons. See who stays dry the longest.

Play the newlywed game with your dates.

Newspaper games: Cut up and re-paste a newspaper so it will say something about your date. Write a newspaper article about your date.

Have a fondue party.

Have a progressive dinner, a different course at each house

Have a pizza decorating contest.

Roast marshmallows on toothpicks over a candle.

Write poetry together-alternate lines or phrases.

Tell a Fairy Tale on tape, using as many sound effects as possible.

Tell ghost stories in the dark.

Play games like, Suck and Blow, Kissing Rugby, Winky, and If you love me.

Go to a park and spend the afternoon playing on swings, teeter-totters, lawn, etc.

- ☐ Play UNO in the middle of the mall
- ☐ Go with a group on a moonlight hike
- ☐ Order Chinese, then eat it on the floor.
- ☐ Pots and Pans Dinner. Set a table with pans instead of plates, and spatulas instead of forks, and so on. Put a sheet over the table to hide the utensils. Have the couples come in and pick a seat, since they won't know what's going on. Serve spaghetti. Make them eat dinner with what's in front of them. Serve drinks in vases.
- ☐ Help someone with a home repair project.
- ☐ Read a book together and discuss it.
- ☐ Work on a car engine together.
- ☐ Plant a garden
- ☐ Christmas Carol in July.
- ☐ Finger painting party - with toes. Dinner after,
- ☐ Make posters together for an activity one or the other is involved in.
- ☐ Prepare Easter Baskets and take them to the Hospital. Go to a play on the crucifixion after.
- ☐ Walk the Downtown mall and listen to the street musicians. Sample ethnic foods along the way.
- ☐ Have a mission party. Invite RM's to bring their photos or slides (don't worry... they would love to!!), music and their favorite dish from their mission.
- ☐ Ice Cream sculpting - Each person brings 1/2 gallon of ice cream and a candy topping. Split up into groups of 4 – 6 and see who makes the best work of art. Eat the ice cream after the judging.
- ☐ \$2 date - Each couple has \$2 to spend on a 1-hour date. Afterwards, share what you came up with (We photocopied our hands at the library, then took a ride on kiddy toys outside K-Mart)
- ☐ Shopping race: Each couple fills a cart at the grocery store with something from each aisle. Trade carts with another couple who have to put everything back in the right place before anyone else can.
- ☐ Get 6 guys and 6 girls and play basketball or touch (not too touchy!) football then go inside for hot chocolate
- ☐ Go to someone's house and bake sugar cookies and decorate them. Then deliver them to members of the ward or take them to a nursing home.
- ☐ Drive around town. Stop at car lots and check out your dream car.
- ☐ Cruise all the parks in the area. Rate the best swings, slides, etc. Have a cookout at the best one.
- ☐ Fast Food Craze. Hit 5 or 6 of the fast food places around. Go through the drive-through and get a drink and one straw. The next place get a burger, and so on until everyone has a full meal.
- ☐ Broom Hockey
- ☐ Repelling
- ☐ Cave exploring
- ☐ Tell funny stories about your past
- ☐ Act out a play or a movie.
- ☐ Putt-Putt - Create your own course in someone's back yard. Instead of a hole, place a Dixie cup on its side and putt into that.
- ☐ Bike ride to the park - Bring a picnic
- ☐ Wash each other's cars. (Be sure to have a water fight and lunch)
- ☐ Ice blocking (Sledding on grass with a block of ice)
- ☐ Bowling
- ☐ Go to a second hand store and pick out an outfit. Go to the airport in it

- ☐ Go hiking, have a camp fire and roast marshmallows while telling stories.
- ☐ Go hiking and at the end of the trail have a nice dinner already set. (Have a friend set it up for you.)
- ☐ Kidnap your date
- ☐ Roller skating
- ☐ Food eating contest
- ☐ Play board games (Scrabble, Balderdash etc.) Have a different game at different tables. You can split up into teams
- ☐ Play 'Capture the Flag'
- ☐ Play "Twister". Change the body parts (i.e. "right hand" becomes "nose") to make it more challenging
- ☐ Play "The Dating Game".
- ☐ Pizza party - See which couple can create the best pizza
- ☐ Play tennis in the snow.
- ☐ Window shopping.
- ☐ Racquetball
- ☐ Tennis
- ☐ Make something creative with your hands - a great time to talk
- ☐ Old square dance dressed in old garb
- ☐ Cartoon Date: Couples meet at 9:00 am and watch cartoons and eat their favorite cereal. They have to come in pajamas. You can rent the cartoons
- ☐ Get a raft and put it in a pool. Everyone get on it and watch "Jaws" on the side of the house.
- ☐ Get dates and split up into 2 - 4 groups and go on a sound scavenger hunt. Pizza later.
- ☐ Go water-skiing with a group and have a cookout.
- ☐ Spend time with another person's family in an activity such as Family Home Evening, scripture chase, cycling, etc.
- ☐ A day of horseback riding.
- ☐ Canoeing
- ☐ Airplane ride over the city and dinner afterwards
- ☐ Go to a dance – But first, go a field to pick a corsage
- ☐ Go to a dance dressed like you're ready to disco
- ☐ Movie night – Go to see a Disney movie or other children's film, then to McDonald's for dinner and play on the playground.
- ☐ Waffle Party: Hostess provides the waffle batter, drinks and necessities.
- ☐ Photo Fun: Go to the park, beach, or the mountains, Take pictures of each other and the places you go. Pack a lunch.
- ☐ Skiing
- ☐ Shop at furniture stores.
- ☐ Have a pool tournament.
- ☐ Make tin-foil dinners and have a cookout
- ☐ Take coat hangers out of someone's closet and go roast marshmallows.
- ☐ Go to the park - feed the ducks, play on all the toys then have a candlelight picnic.
- ☐ Catch and watch fireflies together.
- ☐ Go to the mall and have a game of tag on the escalators.
- ☐ Have a scavenger hunt! You can call on phones to get clues, or find them in a store in the mall etc.
- ☐ Have a sound scavenger hunt. Take a tape recorder around, tape different sounds on your lists
- ☐ Have a water balloon fight
- ☐ Set up a lemonade stand.
- ☐ Get a pizza and drive to the airport to watch planes take off.
- ☐ Bring lawn chairs to the mall and watch people get their hair cut
- ☐ Get some HUGE pants, and hop around the mall in them

- ☐ Go trick-or-treating in any month BUT October.
- ☐ Have a picnic in the mall
- ☐ Watch PBS together.
- ☐ Scuba dive at a public pool
- ☐ Watch people
- ☐ Watch airplanes take off. Describe your best and worst vacation.
- ☐ Go out looking for beautiful settings to photograph
- ☐ Have a talent show. Make it really informal and sit on pillows or on the floor.
- ☐ Have a UN-TALENT show. Everyone has a weird thing they can do.
- ☐ Karaoke night – Try using primary songs and jazzing them up.
- ☐ Fun With Food: Teams compete in Lifesaver passing with a toothpick, cherry or watermelon seed spitting, pie throwing, and other games. Be creative!
- ☐ Refinish a piece of furniture
- ☐ Fix a gourmet dinner together.
- ☐ International Dinner: Each couple brings food from a different country, giving some background on the culture. Rent a film with subtitles to watch later.
- ☐ Color Easter Eggs
- ☐ Make Valentines
- ☐ Go to the Family History Library and look up your ancestors.
- ☐ Look for constellations.
- ☐ Play childhood games like, "Duck, Duck Goose", Tag and "Red Rover".
- ☐ Skateboarding
- ☐ Dancing in a parking lot.
- ☐ Go to the fair, and try to stay away from the midway.
- ☐ Ride around the city in a trolley, or take a bus.
- ☐ Candlelight dinner by a lake
- ☐ Play Trivial Pursuit.
- ☐ Have a dance IN a swimming pool.
- ☐ Wear rollerblades all night long.
- ☐ Have a marshmallow fight.
- ☐ Frisbee football
- ☐ Double with your parents
- ☐ Pick a family in need and play Santa. The date is to wrap and deliver the gifts anonymously.
- ☐ Rake leaves in the fall, and then jump in them.
- ☐ Make and eat taffy.
- ☐ Have a nighttime squirt gun fight.
- ☐ Have a treasure hunt in the park. Hide clues under rocks, in branches, etc.
- ☐ Have a pinata party.
- ☐ Have a sing-along.
- ☐ Make up a survey, then go out and get people to answer your questions.
- ☐ Go rock and fossil hunting.
- ☐ Have a private dinner and dance in a football field.
- ☐ Help someone move or rearrange furniture.
- ☐ Go walking in the rain. Jump in mud puddles.
- ☐ Pick out Christmas trees you like.
- ☐ Carve a pumpkin.
- ☐ Scrub the kitchen table, and serve dinner without plates. Use only forks to eat with.

CREATIVE ASKING

1. Send your date a baby picture of yourself with a poem or note saying that this little baby will cry if he/she doesn't go to _____ (prom, etc.) with you. Give them clues as to who the baby could be. Tell them the final clue of the baby's name will come tomorrow (make them somewhat curious). The next day send them a recent picture of yourself.
2. Send your date an invitation written completely in a foreign language. Include a list of "translators" (returned missionaries are a great help!). If your note is written in Japanese-include as part of your upcoming date, a Japanese dinner. Or your invitation could be delivered by someone in a native costume (make sure they are going to be home).
3. Carefully open a box of Cracker Jacks and replace the little prize with your invitation. "To go with you to _____ would be better than a prize." Seal the box back up carefully.
5. Puzzles: Buy a small puzzle, put it together and write your message on the back of it. Take it apart and return it to the box and give it to them. Your message can correspond to the picture on the puzzle if you want. You can also make your own giant puzzle from poster board paper cut up like a puzzle with your message written on it. You can send it to them all at once or you can mail them a new piece each day until they have the whole puzzle. (Start early so someone else doesn't ask them before they get it all!!!) "Are you puzzled by who wants to take you to _____?"
4. Write your invitation on a very tiny piece of paper. Wrap it in a tiny box. Wrap that box in a little bit larger box, then a larger box, as many boxes as you can until you have a large box. Each one should be wrapped individually before placing it in the next size. Put a note in that says, "I'd be honored by your 'presents' at the dance with me" or "Good things come in small packages."
5. Send your date on a treasure hunt. "I'll treasure the night if you'll go with me."
6. Cut out a piece of paper the size of a parking ticket and write, "Will you go to prom with me?" across the top. Sign your name, making sure to include a date, time and place for the 'summons,' where she is required to appear with an answer. Stick it on her windshield.
7. M&M's - This is a tough one. Take a couple of peanut M&M's and carefully crack them open. Replace the peanut with a tiny message (on a tiny roll of paper) and glue (use a baking substance of some sort; we don't want to kill your date) the M&M back together. Put it in a bag and write instructions on what your potential has to do to find the invitation.
8. Unwrap a bag of cherry and a bag of fire Jolly Ranchers. Tell your date-to-be that if there are more cherries than fires then you will go out with them. (Your date-to-be will have to lick each Jolly Rancher to know your answer because the two flavors are the same color.)
9. If you're sure of yourself and your would-be date, go ahead and take out an ad in your school newspaper. For instance, "Tom, I want you to be my prom date. How about it? Sarah" Talk about a bold move. What guy could resist such confidence?
10. (This one is quite possibly the trickiest. It takes some patience.) Let's face it, everyone loves Chinese food. Get some delicious takeout and two fortune cookies. Very carefully use something long and skinny,

like a paper clip, and slide the fortune out of one of the cookies. Replace it with a "You should attend the prom with the person sitting right next to you!" fortune. When the meal is finished, hand them the specially made fortune cookie and be wowed at their surprised and exciting answer.

11. Put a stick of butter with her name on it on her doorstep. Ring the doorbell, run and hide. A half-hour later, place a bowl of popcorn on the doorstep with a note that says, "Now that I have buttered you up, I'll pop the question. Will you go to prom?"
12. Put a kiddie pool, filled with water in their front yard. Then put pennies at the bottom of it and some rubber duckies floating in it. Then have a poster board saying " I would be one lucky duck if you went to _____ with me."
13. Get an old clock that runs on batteries and has an alarm. Attach a note saying something like "If you have the time, would you like to go out with me?" Then set the alarm for about a minute later than the time you will drop it off and leave it on their porch or by their window at night.
14. Buy some tickets for a concert or ball game. Simply mail your date a ticket explaining that someone (the holder of the accompanying ticket) will pick him/her up the night of the event at a certain time. For confirmation, ask for a sign ("Tie a yellow ribbon around your mailbox, if yes. Otherwise, leave the ticket in an envelope if you can't go and I'll pick it up tomorrow").
15. Take an unopened bag of flour, and attach a note saying that there is a surprise waiting inside for them (although there truly isn't...it's unopened!). That night, he or she will go through the bag of flour looking for something. The next day, leave a rose (or another type of flower) with a note that says..."Oops! Wrong flower, will you go out with me?" OR Put a large bag of flour on her doorstep with this paper: The Recipe for Homecoming 1. First add a pinch of excitement. 2. Mix in some happiness. 3. Sprinkle in a group of smiles. 4. Throw in a bundle of fun. 5. Add a drop of thrills and suspense. 6. Lastly, sift through the flour to find out who is asking you. Do not put your name in the flour. Instead, an hour later drop off a flower with your name in it and a sign that says Whoops! Wrong Flower!
16. Buy red hots (or red hearts). With a Sharpie or other fine line permanent marker, write letters on one side and numbers on the other side of the candy. For example if you were saying, "Please come with me" all the letters in the word "Please" would be numbered 1 on one side of the candy with P, l, e, a, s, e, on the other side (individually). Then for each letter in "come", you would number the other side 2 and so on. He/she has to find all the 1's and unscramble them to make the word "Please", all the 2's to make the word "come" etc. Then he/she has to unscramble the sentence! Make sure you give them good directions so they understand what to do!
17. Make a "Movie" note. Go to the movie section of the paper and cut out the movies to make a poster or note with them: "The Secret of My Success" would be to take you to _____. I know it may be kind of a "Blind Date" but I promise I don't carry any "Lethal Weapons". Let's get away from our "Horror High" and we'll have some fun "Raising Arizona". (or on a "Trip to Bountiful" where we'll go for dinner). If you would say yes, it would be my "Outrageous Fortune!"
18. Send a letter of "Congratulations!" Your name has been randomly picked and you have just won the incredible prize of (your name) as your date for the upcoming dance!

CREATIVE ANSWERS

- A package of DUM-DUM SUCKERS, a sign made to look like a sucker that says: "My answer is YES! I'd be a Dum-Dum to not go with you to Prom." You stick the suckers all over the lawn and put the sign in the middle of them.
- Make a fake car license with YES on it and put it on his car with a note that he now has a license to a dance
- Make up a dance card with his name on every dance and send it to him letting him know you are committed to dance
- Fill oven mitts with candy and leave a note that says, "I have to ad"mitt" that I would love to go to the dance with you."
- Fill a juice pitcher up with candy canes (I guess this only works for a winter dance) and tie a tag around the pitcher handle that says "I can "pitcher" us raising a little "cane" at the dance! I would love to go" Of course since we are LDS this only works if your daughter is sarcastic and the boy knows her well enough to know that she is just being funny.
- Put a Squeeze-it drink and some Hershey's kisses in a basket or some other cute container and a note that says "here's a "squeeze" and a "kiss" to let you know that I am excited to go to the dance with you!"
- Fill a basket with popcorn balls and attach a note that says "I think we'll have a "ball" at the dance!"
- Hang strainers (the kind for cooking) from his bedroom ceiling and a banner that says "I couldn't re "strain" myself from saying YES!"
- Put cheese graters in his locker or bedroom and a note that says "I couldn't say no to a "grate" guy like you. I would love to go to the dance."
- Get a big glass jar or canister and fill it with colored pasta with a note hidden in the pasta that says "I would "pasta" tively love to go to the dance with you!"
- Arrange a cheese ball and crackers on a serving tray with a note that says "I don't mean to sound "cheesy" but I think we'll have a "ball" at the dance."
- One answer that I remember best was a box of chocolates from Mrs. Cavanaugh's. My name is Mindi and they just happen to make a "Mindy Mint" there. He had the box of chocolates delivered to me with a note that said I would find the answer in the chocolates. I wasn't smart enough to look at the key on the lid to see what kind of chocolates there were until I had bitten into about 10 of the chocolates without finding anything. I looked at the key and saw the "Mindy Mint" and the store had made the note right into the center of the chocolate so it looked perfect from the outside.
- Have a local pizza parlor make and deliver a pepperoni pizza spelling out YES.
- A basket full of dumdums (suckers) that says "I'd be a dumdum not to go with you."
- Inexpensive fish in a bowl (from Wal-Mart) and cover his bed with Swedish fishes. "Of all the fish in the sea, I'm glad you asked me!"
- Silk plant in a diaper or pull-up. "When you asked me to the dance, I got so excited I wet my plants!"
- One of my daughter's guy friends answered her by getting some of those glow in the dark plastic stars and sticking them on her ceiling in a big YES. She found them when she turned out the light to go to sleep.