How to Keep You Positive
While Sheltering in Place
*Ideas to Keep Busy and Stay Positive*

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I. **Be Social**

- **Online Board/Card Games.** Play a board game or card game with friends from around the globe or just down the street.
  - Facebook Instant Games: [https://www.facebook.com/games/instantgames](https://www.facebook.com/games/instantgames)
  - Playing Cards: [http://playingcards.io/](http://playingcards.io/)
  - Pogo.com: [https://earlyaccess.pogo.com/all-games](https://earlyaccess.pogo.com/all-games)
  - Steam: [https://store.steampowered.com/search/?term=Board+game](https://store.steampowered.com/search/?term=Board+game)
  - Tabletopia: [https://tabletopia.com/games?](https://tabletopia.com/games?)
  - Tabletop Simulator: [https://www.tabletopsimulator.com/](https://www.tabletopsimulator.com/)
  - Ticket to Ride: [https://store.steampowered.com/app/108200/Ticket_to_Ride/](https://store.steampowered.com/app/108200/Ticket_to_Ride/)

- **Video Games.** Play Video Games with friends while Sheltering in place. Most gaming platforms have multiplayer options. Some suggestions you might not have considered:
  - **Console Games:**
    - Don’t Starve Together (PC, PS4, Xbox One)
    - Friday 13th (Nintendo Switch, PC, PS4, Xbox One)
    - GTA Online (PC, PS4, Xbox One)
    - Sea of Thieves (PC, Xbox One)
    - Call of Duty Modern Warfare (PC, Xbox One, PS4)
  - **Mobile Games:**
    - Asphalt 9: Legends (iOS/Android)
    - Clash Royale (iOS/Android)
    - Exploding Kittens (iOS/Android)
    - Golf Clash (iOS/Android)
    - Kahoot! (iOS/Android)
    - Mario Kart Tour (iOS/Android)
    - Pokémon Go (iOS/Android)
    - Wizards United (iOS/Android)
    - Words with Friends Classic (iOS/Android)
  - **PC Games:**
    - Civilization VI (Windows/Mac)(Steam)
    - Keep Talking and Nobody Explodes (Windows/Mac)(Steam)
    - Stardew Valley (Windows/Mac)(Steam/GOG)
    - Tick Tock: A Tale for Two (Windows/Mac)(Steam/itch.io)
- Worms W.M.D. (Windows/Mac)(Steam)

- **Watch Party.** Host an online watch party with friends.
  - Facebook: [https://www.facebook.com/help/1681245065258554?helpref=about_content](https://www.facebook.com/help/1681245065258554?helpref=about_content)
  - Netflix: [https://www.netflixparty.com/](https://www.netflixparty.com/)

- **Potluck.** Host a virtual Potluck, have friends “over” for dinner using Facetime/Hangouts/Skype/etc.

- **Card Games.** Learn a new card game to play with your housemates. [https://bicyclecards.com/rules/](https://bicyclecards.com/rules/)

- **Book Club.** Start a club (book, movie, baking, cooking, etc.).

- **In-person Board Games.** Buy a new Board Game to play with your housemates/family. Some suggestions:
  - Above and Below Board Game
  - Agricola Board Game
  - Carcassonne Board Game
  - Catan (and any of the expansions) Board Game
  - Exploding Kittens Card Game
  - Fluxx 5.0 Card Game
  - Pandemic Board Game
  - Sway: A Game of Debate and Silver Linings
  - Ticket to Ride Board Game


- **Friends Circle App.** Try out a new social networking, group socializing type app.
  - Cocoon: [https://cocoon.com/](https://cocoon.com/)
  - Ikaria: [https://www.ikaria.co/](https://www.ikaria.co/)
  - Monaru: [https://www.monaru.io/](https://www.monaru.io/)
  - Squad: [https://squadapp.io/](https://squadapp.io/)

- **Conversation Prompts.** You can use conversations prompts to spark interesting dialogue during a video call.
  - Conversations Starters: [https://conversationstartersworld.com/250-conversation-starters/](https://conversationstartersworld.com/250-conversation-starters/)
  - Table Topics: [https://www.tabletopics.com/](https://www.tabletopics.com/)
2. **Explore Arts & Culture**


- **Broadway HD.** Sign up for Broadway HD (free trial, then paid) to watch even more plays and musicals. [https://www.broadwayhd.com/](https://www.broadwayhd.com/)

- **Google Arts & Culture.** Explore Google Art & Culture. Take a tour, explore a collection, and learn more about artists. [https://artsandculture.google.com/](https://artsandculture.google.com/). Here is a very small sampling of a few museums included:
  - The British Museum, UK: [https://g.co/arts/dBEMHykFfnRp8rw6](https://g.co/arts/dBEMHykFfnRp8rw6)
  - The Guggenheim Museum, NY: [https://g.co/arts/RAj2aP25MMiV8vqH9](https://g.co/arts/RAj2aP25MMiV8vqH9)
  - Le Gallerie Degli Uffizi, Italy: [https://g.co/arts/rVeyGRi2Czq2qWgj9](https://g.co/arts/rVeyGRi2Czq2qWgj9)
  - Musee d’Orsay, France: [https://g.co/arts/cqG4ASZjFyFMQT7](https://g.co/arts/cqG4ASZjFyFMQT7)
  - Museu de Arte de Sao Paulo, Brazil: [https://g.co/arts/efGWP8PPmbWk3M8](https://g.co/arts/efGWP8PPmbWk3M8)
  - Museum of Modern Art, NY: [https://g.co/arts/XvakXDXfqbhGPCak6](https://g.co/arts/XvakXDXfqbhGPCak6)
  - National Gallery of Art, DC: [https://g.co/arts/kwaYki1whEetHhD8](https://g.co/arts/kwaYki1whEetHhD8)
  - Pergamon, Germany: [https://g.co/arts/P8RqCU29Gc5uyNGL8](https://g.co/arts/P8RqCU29Gc5uyNGL8)
  - National Portrait Gallery, DC: [https://g.co/arts/CcQEx92tzZyWHV1QA](https://g.co/arts/CcQEx92tzZyWHV1QA)
  - Van Gogh Museum, Netherlands: [https://g.co/arts/DxqRAPU89inCPcw6](https://g.co/arts/DxqRAPU89inCPcw6)

- **Museum Tour.** Take a Virtual Museum Tour or explore previously unreleased collections/exhibits.

- **The Met.** Watch the NY Metropolitan Opera. [https://www.metopera.org/user-information/nightly-met-opera-streams/](https://www.metopera.org/user-information/nightly-met-opera-streams/)

- **BeethovenFest 2020.** Watch the Vancouver Symphony perform BeethovenFest Virtual Finale: [https://www.facebook.com/VSOOrchestra/videos/2798750073578921/](https://www.facebook.com/VSOOrchestra/videos/2798750073578921/)

- **Royal Opera House, UK.** Explore the Royal Opera House YouTube Channel for top performances of Opera and Ballet: [https://www.youtube.com/user/royaloperahouse](https://www.youtube.com/user/royaloperahouse)
• **Social Distancing Festival.** Check out the Social Distancing Festival: [https://www.socialdistancingfestival.com/](https://www.socialdistancingfestival.com/)

• **Concerts.** Attend a free online Concert. Artists are announcing new “living room” concerts almost daily. Google or search social media to find out who is throwing a digital concert. You should also check out:
  o [https://seattlesymphony.org/live](https://seattlesymphony.org/live),
  o [https://www.thecurrent.org/events/genre/145/Live%20stream](https://www.thecurrent.org/events/genre/145/Live%20stream)

3. **Write a Letter**

• **Letters to Seniors.** Write a letter to a senior citizen. [https://lovefortheelderly.org/letters](https://lovefortheelderly.org/letters)
  o Check with your local nursing home/assisted care facility. Some are requesting emails of cards, funny pictures, stories to share with their residents.

• **Letters to Strangers.** You can also write to strangers. [https://www.writeoncampaign.com/write-to-those-in-need](https://www.writeoncampaign.com/write-to-those-in-need),

• **Postcard Exchange.** Participate in a worldwide Postcard Exchange. [https://www.postcrossing.com/](https://www.postcrossing.com/).

4. **Read Something New**

• **Visit the Library.** Use your Library’s digital resources. Many use the Libby App or Overdrive for digital books, audiobooks, and more. Some have magazines you can digitally checkout and even movies.

• **Kindle Unlimited.** Try Kindle Unlimited. If you are a Harry Potter fan, all the books are available on Kindle Unlimited and even the Kindle in Motion versions.

• **Internet Rabbit Hole.** Go down an internet rabbit hole. If you need inspiration for learning more about a variety of quirky topics, check out:
  o All That’s Interesting: [https://allthatsinteresting.com/](https://allthatsinteresting.com/)
  o Ancient History Encyclopedia: [https://www.ancient.eu/](https://www.ancient.eu/)
  o Atlas Obscura: [https://www.atlasobscura.com/](https://www.atlasobscura.com/)
  o Brain Pickings: [https://www.brainpickings.org/](https://www.brainpickings.org/)
  o Boredom Therapy: [https://boredomtherapy.com/](https://boredomtherapy.com/)
  o Curiosity: [https://curiosity.com/](https://curiosity.com/)
  o How Stuff Works: [https://www.howstuffworks.com/](https://www.howstuffworks.com/) (also has several podcasts)
  o Mental Floss: [https://www.mentalfloss.com/](https://www.mentalfloss.com/)
• Mix: [https://mix.com/](https://mix.com/)
• The Moth: [https://www.themoth.org/](https://www.themoth.org/) (also has a podcast)
• The Worst Thing for Sale: [http://theworstthingsforsale.com/](http://theworstthingsforsale.com/)

- **MC-DOS Games.** While probably not a ton of reading, you can also fall down the rabbit hole care of the Internet Archives MC-DOS games library. [https://archive.org/details/softwarelibrary_msdos_games](https://archive.org/details/softwarelibrary_msdos_games)

### 5. Watch Something New

- **Animal Videos.** Watch a cute or relaxing animal video. Many are live and some are even doing live broadcasts with the zookeepers to learn more about the animals. Several streams are also available on YouTube. Try streaming the Monterey Bay Aquarium Jellies while working.
  - Atlanta Zoo Panda Cam: [https://zooatlanta.org/panda-cam/](https://zooatlanta.org/panda-cam/)
  - Georgia Aquarium: [https://www.georgiaaquarium.org/webcam/beluga-whale-webcam/](https://www.georgiaaquarium.org/webcam/beluga-whale-webcam/)
  - Houston Zoo: [https://www.houstonzoo.org/explore/webcams/](https://www.houstonzoo.org/explore/webcams/)
  - Indianapolis Zoo Walrus Cam: [https://www.indianapoliszoo.com/exhibits/oceans/pacific-walrus/](https://www.indianapoliszoo.com/exhibits/oceans/pacific-walrus/)
  - Monterey Bay: [https://www.montereybayaquarium.org/animals/live-cams](https://www.montereybayaquarium.org/animals/live-cams)
  - National Zoo: [https://nationalzoo.si.edu/webcams](https://nationalzoo.si.edu/webcams)
  - San Diego Zoo: [https://zoo.sandiegozoo.org/live-cams](https://zoo.sandiegozoo.org/live-cams)

- **Nature Live Cams.** Explore live cams (many of which are also available on YouTube) lets you watch nature and animals from around the world. Fancy a trip to Hawaii, watch the Pipeline Cam or Waimea Bay. Love elephants? Head to the Tembe Elephant Reserve Cam.
  - Explore Nature: [https://explore.org/livecams](https://explore.org/livecams)

YouTube also has several pre-recorded nature videos for relaxation and exploring Planet Earth.

- **Historic Public Radio/Television.** Discover historic programs of publicly funded radio and television across America. [https://americanarchive.org/](https://americanarchive.org/)

- **Ted Talks.** Check out Ted Talks YouTube Page for tons of pre-recorded Ted Talks on a whole rainbow of topics. [https://www.youtube.com/user/TEDtalksDirector](https://www.youtube.com/user/TEDtalksDirector).
• If history is your thing, check out this brief tour of the last 4 billion years (dinosaurs not included) by Lauren Sallan. 
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_0J10j46-qQ.

• Relive the 80’s. CNN did a documentary special on the 80’s. Reconnect and show your kids what it was like without widespread internet and cell phones.  https://www.cnn.com/shows/the-eighties

6. Take a Trip on the Internet

• National Parks Tours. Take a virtual tour of a National Park/Preserve/Site/etc. Here are just a few you can visit:
  o Acadia:  https://www.nps.gov/acad/learn/photosmultimedia/virtualtour.htm
  o Bandelier:  https://www.nps.gov/band/learn/photosmultimedia/virtualtour.htm
  o Canyonlands:  https://www.nps.gov/cany/learn/photosmultimedia/virtualtour.htm
  o Cape Cod Seashore:  https://www.nps.gov/caco/planyourvisit/virtual-tours.htm
  o Denali:  https://www.nps.gov/dena/learn/photosmultimedia/virtual-tours.htm
  o Ellis Island: https://www.nps.gov/elis/learn/photosmultimedia/virtual-tour.htm
  o Grand Teton:  https://www.nps.gov/grte/learn/photosmultimedia/virtualtour.htm
  o Monocacy:  https://www.nps.gov/mono/learn/photosmultimedia/virtualtour.htm
  o Sitka:  https://www.nps.gov/sitk/learn/photosmultimedia/virtual-tours.htm
  o Upper Delaware:  https://www.nps.gov/upde/learn/virtual-tour.htm
  o Yellowstone:  https://www.nps.gov/yell/learn/photosmultimedia/virtualtours.htm
  o White Sands:  https://www.nps.gov/whsa/learn/photosmultimedia/videos.htm

There are even more virtual tours on the NPS website. Look for your favorite park and then under “Learn About the Park” > “Photos & Multimedia” look for a “Virtual Tour” page. Some NPS areas also have live webcams that you can watch.


• Go to Space. NASA has opened their entire media library to the public! Explore pictures of space.  https://www.diyphotography.net/nasa-makes-entire-media-library-publicly-accessible-copyright-free/?fbclid=IwAR1nw4tpZsTvRN1Qi0CERhQspEZ-zstHdxF4bakEVFj-O3zVn_CSxlQ-R8s
  o NASA also has a live stream to explore space and learn about space exploration.  https://www.nasa.gov/nasalive
7. **Explore Your Creativity**

- **Coloring.** Coloring is both relaxing and creative. You can even have your kids color pictures to mail/email to friends. There are tons of free coloring pages/books on the internet. Pick one that inspires you.

- **Take an Art Lesson.** Several sites are offering free daily classes or reduced rates.
  
  - [Jerry’s Artarama Fee Daily Art Lesson](https://www.jerrysartarama.com/free-art-instruction-videos)
  - [Artist’s Network](https://www.artistsnetwork.com/)
  - [Learn Hand lettering](https://awesomealice.com/hand-lettering-practice-sheets/)

- **DIY.** Spruce up the house, make some new décor, or learn how to make a chicken coop. Obviously, stick to projects that you have supplies on hand for in the house or can procure while sheltering in place.
  
  - [Ana White](https://www.ana-white.com/)
  - [Apartment Therapy](https://www.apartmenttherapy.com/)
  - [Curbly](https://www.curbly.com/)
  - [Instructables](https://www.instructables.com/)
  - [Make](https://makezine.com/)
  - [Remodelaholic](https://www.remodelaholic.com/)
  - [The Spruce](https://www.thespruce.com/)
  - [Today’s Homeowner](https://todayshomeowner.com/)

8. **Learn a New Skill**

- **Free & Paid Courses.** You can explore new skills, deepen an existing passion or get lost in learning.
  
  - [Class Central](https://www.classcentral.com/)
  - [Coursera](https://www.coursera.org/)
  - [edX](https://www.edx.org/)
  - [Google Digital Garage](https://learndigital.withgoogle.com/digitalgarage)
  - [Great Courses Plus](https://www.thegreatcoursesplus.com/)
  - [Khan Academy](https://www.khanacademy.org/)
  - [Lynda](https://www.lynda.com/)
  - [Open Culture](http://www.openculture.com/freeonlinecourses)
  - [SkillShare](https://www.skillshare.com/)

- **Learn a new Language.** Brush up on your high school Spanish or learn a whole new
language for your next trip, once travel starts up again.

- **DuoLingo**: [https://www.duolingo.com/](https://www.duolingo.com/)
- **Live Lingua**: [https://www.livelingua.com/](https://www.livelingua.com/)
- **LiveMocha**: [https://www.livemocha.co/](https://www.livemocha.co/)
- **Open Culture**: [http://www.openculture.com/freelanguagelessons](http://www.openculture.com/freelanguagelessons)

### 9. Try a New Recipe

- **Polish Your Cooking/ Baking Skills.** Learn or refresh basic cooking and baking skills. [https://www.bonappetit.com/video/series/how-to-do-every-basic-cooking-technique](https://www.bonappetit.com/video/series/how-to-do-every-basic-cooking-technique).
- **Find New Recipes.** There are probably thousands of different sites for recipes, but here are a few to get you started:
  - **All Recipes**: [https://www.allrecipes.com/](https://www.allrecipes.com/)
  - **Chowhound**: [https://www.chowhound.com/](https://www.chowhound.com/)
  - **Delish**: [https://www.delish.com/](https://www.delish.com/)
  - **Epicurious**: [https://www.epicurious.com/](https://www.epicurious.com/)
  - **Food 52**: [https://food52.com/](https://food52.com/)
  - **Food.com**: [https://www.food.com/](https://www.food.com/)
  - **The Kitchn**: [https://www.thekitchn.com/](https://www.thekitchn.com/)
  - **Serious Eats**: [https://www.seriouseats.com/](https://www.seriouseats.com/)
  - **Yummly**: [https://www.yummly.com/](https://www.yummly.com/)
- **Low on Ingredients.** Try SuperCook, which can pull a recipe for you based on what you have in your house.
  - [https://www.supercook.com/##/recipes](https://www.supercook.com/##/recipes)
  - Also available on iOS/Android
- **Make a Historic Recipe.** Cook a historic recipe (or just read very old cookbooks). Explore the Michigan State University Feeding America Collection. [https://d.lib.msu.edu/fa](https://d.lib.msu.edu/fa)

### 10. Volunteer

- **Transcription from Home.** Even while sheltering in place you can volunteer to transcribe records for the Smithsonian at [https://transcription.si.edu/](https://transcription.si.edu/)
- **Donate Blood.** [https://www.redcross.org/give-blood.html](https://www.redcross.org/give-blood.html)
11. **Practice Relaxation**

- **Phone Apps.** Try a mediation or mindfulness app. Some are paid, but likely have a free trial.
  - The Breathing App (iOS/Android)
  - Calm (iOS/Android): [https://www.calm.com/](https://www.calm.com/)
  - Declutter the Mind (iOS/Android): [https://declutterthemind.com/](https://declutterthemind.com/)
  - FitMind (iOS): [https://www.fitmind.co/](https://www.fitmind.co/)
  - Headspace (iOS/Android): [https://www.headspace.com/covid-19](https://www.headspace.com/covid-19)
  - Insight Timer: [https://insighttimer.com/](https://insighttimer.com/)
  - Mindwell (iOS/Android): [https://www.mindwell.live/](https://www.mindwell.live/)
  - Simple Habit (iOS/Android): [https://www.simplehabit.com/](https://www.simplehabit.com/)
  - Soundly (iOS/Android): [https://soundly.app/about](https://soundly.app/about)
  - Unplug Meditation (iOS/Android): [https://www.unplug.com/online-classes](https://www.unplug.com/online-classes)

- **Try Mediation.** Learn how to Meditate with the NYT’s Guide to Mediation.

- **Yoga for Relaxation.** Yoga practice can also provider relaxation. Check out the NYT’s Guide on How to Relax with Yoga and the Yoga ideas in Section 8 “Physical Activity while at Home.”

12. **Physical Activity while at Home**

- **YouTube Fitness Videos.** Take a YouTube Fitness Class from your living room. Here are a few to get you started:
  - Blogilates: [https://www.youtube.com/user/blogilates](https://www.youtube.com/user/blogilates)
  - Fitness Blender: [https://www.youtube.com/user/FitnessBlende8.r/featured](https://www.youtube.com/user/FitnessBlende8.r/featured)
  - The Fitness Marshall: [https://www.youtube.com/user/TheFitnessMarshall](https://www.youtube.com/user/TheFitnessMarshall)
  - HASfit: [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCXlJ2-RSlGn53HA-x9RDevA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCXlJ2-RSlGn53HA-x9RDevA)
  - Les Mills: [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UChjHUmT_EREEs4WV6jpnnBw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UChjHUmT_EREEs4WV6jpnnBw)
  - Nate Bower Fitness (Boxing): [https://www.youtube.com/user/NateBowerFitness/featured](https://www.youtube.com/user/NateBowerFitness/featured)
  - PopSugar Fitness: [https://www.youtube.com/user/popsugartvfit](https://www.youtube.com/user/popsugartvfit)
  - Yoga with Adriene: [https://www.youtube.com/user/yogawithadriene/featured](https://www.youtube.com/user/yogawithadriene/featured)
- **Walk at Home by Leslie Sansone:**  
  https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCVI6ZdsI2Zj34bM1Pbg

- **Amazon Prime.** Check out Amazon Prime for free access to a wide variety of fitness videos, including Zumba and 21-Day Transformation from GymRa. Just search for “fitness” and then filter by “Prime.”

- **NYT Fitness Guides.** The NYT has several fitness guides that include short videos to guide you work out.
  - 6 Minute Workouts:  https://www.nytimes.com/2020/02/18/well/move/in-6-minutes-you-can-be-done-with-your-workout.html
  - High Intensity Quick Workouts:  https://www.nytimes.com/guides/well/really-really-short-workouts
  - 9 Minute Strength workout:  https://www.nytimes.com/guides/well/strength-training-plyometrics
  - Yoga for Everyone:  https://www.nytimes.com/guides/well/beginner-yoga

- **Yoga Streaming Services.** Try a Yoga streaming service. Most offer free trials and have different types of Yoga available.
  - CorePower Yoga:  https://www.corepoweryoga.com/yoga-on-demand
  - Gaia:  https://www.gaia.com/yoga
  - Yoga Glo:  https://www.glo.com/
  - Yoga Today:  https://www.yogatoday.com/

- **Exercise Workout Apps.** Try a workout app on your phone. Some are paid, but most have a free trial.
  - 7 Minute Workout (iOS/Android):  https://7minuteworkout.jnj.com/
  - Fit-On (iOS/Android)
  - The Ladder (iOS)
  - Pocket Yoga (iOS/Android)
  - Sculpt Society:  https://www.meganroup.com/
  - Yoga Studio (iOS/Android):  https://www.yogastudioapp.com/

- **Exercise Programs.** Most exercise Program Services are offering free trials or Covid-19 exercise plans. This is a great chance to try something new.
  - Blogilates:  https://www.blogilates.com/14-day-quarantine-workout-plan/
  - Peloton is offering a free 90-day trial:  https://www.onepeloton.com/

- **Your Local Gym/Studio.** A lot of local gyms, yoga studios, etc. are offering online
classes you can do from home. Make sure you check with them to see if your regular instructor is offering video classes.

13. **Stay Healthy**
   - Wash Your Hands. [https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/](https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/)

Call NHLAP FOR HELP! WE ARE YOUR CONFIDENTIAL FREE SERVICE: CALL (603) 491-0282 OR E-MAIL t.harrington@lapnh.org

14. **Ask for Help**
   - CDC. Advice on coping with a traumatic event or disaster. [https://emergency.cdc.gov/coping/index.asp](https://emergency.cdc.gov/coping/index.asp)

   - National Suicide Prevention Hotline.
     - [https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/](https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/)
     - Phone: 1-800-273-8255
       - “988” is NOT CURRENTLY Active

   - On-Line Counseling Services
     - Better Help [www.betterhelp.com](http://www.betterhelp.com)
     - TalkSpace [www.lp.talkspace.com](http://www.lp.talkspace.com)
     - Text CONNECT to 741741

   - Veteran Services Crisis Line
     - 1-800-273-8255