



The UNIVERSITY of
WEST ALABAMA

Creative date ideas

Dating no longer follows the strict rules of courtship it once did – in fact, many college students don't technically "date" at all – but the goal is still the same: to learn more about someone you like.

With that in mind, there are definitely some dating options that are more productive than others. For example, going to a movie is the perfect opportunity to sit beside someone and not talk for two hours.

Instead, why not create opportunities to engage in face-to-face conversation? Here are just a few ideas to have a great time on a date and actually learn something about your companion along the way:

- **Bowling** – Yes, it's very old school, but there's a reason it has such staying power. Bowling is fun, it's a sport that people are almost universally bad at, and it's a great way to see someone in a casual-but-competitive environment.
- **Hiking** – Long walks outside are the perfect impetus for contemplation of your existence and can facilitate some seriously deep conversations. The amazing (and nearby) Sumter County Nature Trust Nature Trails provide a gorgeous backdrop for your chat and can make even the most average of outings feel like an adventure.
- **Boating** on the Tombigbee and Sucarnochoee Rivers is also a great way to get outside and enjoy nature. Depending on the type of boat you choose, it could also be a good way to test compatibility (think two-man kayak).
- **Art** – either viewing it or creating it – can be an entertaining and educational way to spend a date. Our area offers a number of art galleries, including the Coleman Center for the Arts in nearby York as well as art classes at the SH Design Arts Studio on Marshall Street in Livingston.
- **Showing your school spirit** with a trip to any UWA sporting event. This time of year, you have lots of choices – including tennis, baseball, women's basketball, soccer, and even rodeo – right here on campus. And if you're in the mood for a road trip, take in an away event at nearby Tuscaloosa or Meridian.

Of course, these are just a few suggestions. The best date activity is something you both enjoy, something that gives you a chance to get to know each other better, and the opportunity to truly decide if you ought to be spending even more time together.