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The rewards of old-fashioned fun

The Early Years Institute in Plainview is launching a contest to recognize parents and caregivers of children ages 10 and younger who play with their children in fun, creative ways.

The “Amazing Ways to Play” contest is looking to highlight innovative ways that families can simply play together without the distractions of technology. There are two categories – indoor and outdoor play activities – and parents can submit entries in one or both.

Winners will be chosen by a panel of child development experts. A grand prize winner in both categories will each receive a \$250 American Express gift card, while all winners will be honored at a June ceremony. The deadline for entries is March 31. Visit www.earlyyearsinst.org.