

Parent & Child Activity Calendar

Elementary School

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THE PARENT INSTITUTE®

March • April • May 2020

Parent & Child Activity Calendar

Elementary School
Parents
make the difference!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Go on a "counting walk" with your child. Pick something to count (cars, signs, flowers, birds, bikes) and keep track.	2 Let your child know you believe in her ability to learn. "You will learn this. You just need more practice."	3 Discuss what it means to be a responsible member of a community. Ask your child how he could help his community.	4 Talk to your child about the qualities that make a true friend.	5 Ask your child to make up some fraction facts. For example, "One-half of our family members have brown eyes."	6 Prepare a healthy meal with your child tonight.	7 Visit the library today. Let your child invite a friend to come with her.
8 Collect bright yarn and fabric scraps. Put in a mesh bag and hang on a tree. See if birds take some to build a nest.	9 Ask your child to calculate the average age of family members. Add up the ages, then divide by the number of family members.	10 Stand your child against a wall. Use a spoon as a ruler and see how many "spoons" tall he is.	11 A <i>rebus</i> is a story that replaces some words with pictures. Make a rebus with your child.	12 Look at the weather forecast today. Compare the weather where you live to the weather in the rest of the country.	13 Read a story together. In the middle of the story, ask your child how she would end it.	14 Keep a notebook handy when watching TV. Have your child jot down five new words. Look them up later.
15 Listen to a piece of music that has no lyrics. Have your child write his own words to the song.	16 Make your child laugh! Tell a joke, read a funny poem or sing a silly song.	17 Talk about fire safety today. What should your child do in case of a fire? Teach her an escape route from your home.	18 Make a crossword puzzle with your child to review spelling or vocabulary words.	19 Write fractions on cards. Mix them up. Have your child put them in order from smallest to greatest.	20 Trace your child's shoe on paper. Let him use markers to turn the tracing into a funny picture.	21 Visit the library today. Sit in a cozy chair in the children's section and read a few books together.
22 As you do errands, help your child talk with people about the jobs they do.	23 Hum a song and see if your child can guess the name of the song.	24 Ask your child to describe the most beautiful place she has ever seen.	25 Let your child see you reading. Then say, "Reading is so much fun!"	26 Ask your child to add up all the change in your pocket or purse. Help him practice making change.	27 Set daily limits on your child's screen time. Together, decide on a reasonable amount of time and have her stick to it.	28 Have each family member write a funny sentence. Put them together to make a story.
29 Use a toothpick dipped in lemon juice to write a message. To decipher, hold the paper up to a light bulb.	30 Choose a news article and cut off the headline. Challenge your child to read the article and write his own headline.	31 Ask your child to draw something that makes her happy.	<h2>March 2020</h2>			

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<h2>April 2020</h2>			1 Celebrate April Fool's Day. Ask your child to help you play a harmless prank on family members.	2 Ask your child to tell you about the nicest thing a person has ever done for him.	3 Teach a card game to your child. Play it with the whole family tonight. Have your child explain the rules.	4 Mark off inches on the side of a clear jar and set it outside. Have your child track how much rain you get in one week.
5 Take a walk and look for signs of spring. See if your child can hear any birds or find any flowers.	6 Check on your child's grades. If necessary, work with the teacher to help her raise them before the year ends.	7 Ask your child to pretend he's a superhero. What is his name and what powers does he have?	8 Play "I Spy." Say "I spy something orange." Let your child guess what it is. Then it's her turn to "spy" something.	9 Ask your child: "If you could only keep one of your books, which one would you keep?"	10 Give your child opportunities to make decisions. It's a skill that gets better with practice.	11 Let your child help with a household chore today. Remember to thank him when he finishes.
12 Set aside time today to work on a hobby with your child.	13 Have your child teach you something she needs to learn for homework. It's a great way to reinforce learning.	14 Talk about the best and the worst parts of your day at dinner tonight. Make sure everyone gets a turn to talk.	15 Today is National Laundry Day. Teach your child how to do his own laundry.	16 Have your child imagine she's a chef in a restaurant. What foods would she serve?	17 Plan an indoor campout. Make a tent from a blanket. Eat s'mores and read scary stories.	18 Take a trip to a nearby museum. Let your child pick what exhibits he wants to see.
19 Make a paper crown with your child. Ask "If you ruled the land, what rules would you set?"	20 What does your child want to be when she grows up? Ask her!	21 Today is National Library Workers Day. Ask your child to make a card for the school librarian.	22 Today is Earth Day. Ask your child to name three ways he can protect the earth.	23 Talk about one way you used math today. Ask everyone in the family how they used math.	24 Encourage your child to write a letter today to a distant relative or friend.	25 Go for a walk today. Challenge each other to spot something you haven't seen before.
26 Use sidewalk chalk to draw pictures outside with your child on a warm day.	27 It's the birthday of Samuel Morse. Send messages to each other in Morse Code.	28 Teach empathy. Ask your child to imagine how others might feel in certain situations.	29 Take your child outside for a "listening minute." Each of you close your eyes and name the sounds you hear.	30 Does your child know your state bird? If not, help her look it up.		

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<h2>May 2020</h2>					1 May is National Physical Fitness and Sports Month. Plan to get some exercise with your child every day this month!	2 Celebrate National Bike Month by reviewing the "rules of the road." Talk about the importance of wearing a helmet.
3 At some time today, exchange notes with your child instead of talking.	4 When your child has a problem, give him two possible solutions and let him decide which one to choose.	5 It's Cinco de Mayo. With your child, learn about why this holiday is celebrated in Mexico.	6 Show your child a new shape today. If she already knows the basics, introduce a hexagon (six sides) or octagon (eight sides.)	7 Ask your child questions that require more than a yes or no answer: "What was your favorite part of the story?"	8 Plan a screen-free evening. Read or play games instead. Serve a nutritious snack.	9 Help your child make puppets by drawing faces on the bottom flaps of small paper bags.
10 Go on a reading picnic with your child. Take some books, a snack and a blanket to sit on.	11 Make it a point to use five new words during dinner tonight.	12 Talk about a familiar place and ask your child which direction it is from your home: <i>north</i> , <i>south</i> , <i>east</i> or <i>west</i> .	13 Have your child give you examples of a complete sentence, an incomplete sentence and a run-on sentence.	14 Remind your child not to share any personal information when she is online.	15 Read three poems with your child today.	16 Spend some time gardening with your child. Pull weeds, spread mulch, plant flowers outside. Or pot plants indoors.
17 Spend at least 30 minutes reading together today. Let your child pick the book you will read.	18 Give family members marshmallows and toothpicks. See who can build the tallest tower.	19 Have your child hold his nose while he eats. Does it affect the taste of the food?	20 At dinner, have each family member say something nice about every person at the table.	21 Does your child know why the sky is blue? If not, go online to research the answer.	22 Show your child a recipe. Have her rewrite the amount of each ingredient to double the recipe or cut it in half.	23 Start a list of places you'd like to visit. Have your child do research to obtain information about these places.
24 Play a game of tic-tac-toe with your child.	25 Ask the school about dates for year-end tests. Make sure your child gets enough sleep the night before each test.	26 Remind your child that you enjoy his company, and let him know you love him.	27 Create a family joke book. Write one or two jokes per page. Staple the pages together.	28 Encourage your child to draw a self-portrait.	29 Ask your child, "What do you look forward to when you wake up in the morning?"	30 Look for a television program on science or history. Watch it with your child.
31 Practice origami with your child.						

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