

Parent & Child Activity Calendar

Elementary School
Parents
make the difference!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
March						
		1 It's National Pig Day. If you and your child haven't read <i>Charlotte's Web</i> , start it today. If you've read it, read it again!	2 It's the birthday of Dr. Seuss. Read one of his books with your child.	3 It's the birthday of Alexander Bell, inventor of the telephone. Teach your child how to take a message.	4 Post a funny saying or a comic strip where your child will see it.	5 Do you and your child know your state bird? If not, look it up together.
6 Ask your child to write a story about what your house looks like from a dog's point of view.	7 Create a word search for your child by hiding words in a grid and surrounding them with random letters.	8 On a visit to the library, use reference books or the Internet to look up events on the day your child was born.	9 Talk with your child about <i>perseverance</i> . Look for examples of people who demonstrate perseverance.	10 Talk to your child about a time you had to work with someone you didn't like. How did you handle it?	11 If you don't have time to read to your kids at night, read in the morning. It's a real "power breakfast."	12 Check ads for prices ending in 98 or 99 cents. Round off and estimate. How much would four of these cost?
13 Start a family scrapbook. Collect photos, souvenirs, certificates and other mementos. Look through it often.	14 Write an encouraging note and tuck it in your child's jacket pocket or a school book.	15 Review spelling or vocabulary words tonight. Try to use each of them in a sentence.	16 Pick a category (animals, food). Your child picks a letter. How many items from that category can you name?	17 Does your child have a large assignment? Help her break it down into smaller parts.	18 Make today punctuation day. See how many types of punctuation you come across. What does each stand for?	19 Take everyone in the family to a nearby park. Run like the March wind.
20 It's Clutter Awareness Week. Brainstorm about ways to reduce the clutter in your house.	21 Teach your child to answer easy questions first on a test. That will give him confidence to tackle harder questions.	22 Together, think of several words that start with the same letter. Put them in a sentence that makes sense.	23 Take a trip to the zoo. Go to http://nationalzoo.si.edu . The National Zoo's webcams will give you a live look at animals!	24 Today is the birthday of magician Harry Houdini. Learn a magic trick with your child.	25 Help your child start a collection. Provide a place to keep it—a box, a shelf, a drawer.	26 Make today your child's special day. Let her choose what you'll do and eat.
27 Clip a news story. Cut the paragraphs apart. Ask your child to read the paragraphs and put them in order.	28 Play a rhyming game. Take turns making up a short sentence. Answer with a sentence that rhymes.	29 When you read aloud, choose an exciting place to stop. Then ask, "What do you think will happen next?"	30 Have your child choose a newspaper headline. Turn it into a question. Does the article answer the question?	31 Have your child place a piece of paper on a tree trunk and rub with a crayon to see the tree's bark pattern.	2011	

© 2011 The Parent Institute®, a division of NIS, Inc. May be reproduced only as licensed by *Parents make the difference!*® Elementary Edition newsletter. 1-800-756-5525

Parent & Child Activity Calendar

Elementary School
Parents
make the difference!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
April 2011					1 April is Math Education Month. Take time to review math with your child each day this month.	2 Have your child look through the Yellow Pages, choose a business or service, and write a funny ad for it.
3 In 1860, the Pony Express made its first trip. Have your child write a letter to someone far away.	4 Ask your child to give you a "six o'clock report" about what went on today. What's the "lead story"?	5 Cover the illustration on a page of a book. Read the page to your child. Can your child guess what's in the picture?	6 Keep up with the news. Time for Kids has the latest kid-friendly news from around the world. Visit www.timeforkids.com .	7 Have your child design a new cover for a much-loved book.	8 Consider giving your child an allowance so she can practice managing her own money.	9 Cut out newspaper pictures. Write stories about what you think happened before or after the picture.
10 Encourage your child to keep a gratitude journal. Each day, have him write two things he is grateful for.	11 Find a new way to say "I love you"—in a foreign language, in sign language or in secret code.	12 Have a silly supper tonight. Serve finger foods such as fruit, cheese and popcorn. Grab a blanket and sit on the floor.	13 Read a newspaper article with your child. Help her learn what's <i>fact</i> and what's <i>opinion</i> .	14 Think of some "what if" questions: "What if we walked on our hands?" "What if cats could talk?"	15 Have everyone bring a joke to the dinner table. Remember: laughter is the best dinner music!	16 Can you and your child communicate without words? Try it and see.
17 Take your child out for breakfast or make his favorite food at home!	18 Have your child listen to different types of music. Ask her to describe how each makes her feel.	19 It's Turn Off the TV Week. Can your family switch off the set for seven days?	20 Make a book-mark. On a piece of thin cardboard, have your child draw a scene or write a quote from a book.	21 At bedtime, allow a few minutes after the light is off for quiet conversation with your child.	22 Make up your own holiday today. Invent a special holiday just for your family.	23 Have your child read to you as you are making dinner tonight. Or read to him while he prepares dinner!
24 Show your child how to make and use a to-do list. It can help her stay on track with chores and schoolwork.	25 Help your child write a family newsletter. Interview family members and write up the news.	26 Make a fort with your child out of couch cushions or cardboard boxes.	27 It's the birthday of Samuel Morse. Send and receive a message in Morse code.	28 Watch the news with your child. Choose a "Person of the Week." Read more about him or her.	29 Have your child keep track of everything he eats. How could he make one change so his diet is healthier?	30 Watch a nature program on TV together.

© 2011 The Parent Institute®, a division of NIS, Inc. May be reproduced only as licensed by *Parents make the difference!*® Elementary Edition newsletter. 1-800-756-5525



Yvonne Vandenberg, Director
CESA #9

Calendar

Elementary School

Activity

Parent & Child

Parent & Child

Activity Calendar



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 It's National Teacher Appreciation Week. Encourage your child to write a thank-you to a favorite teacher.	2 Celebrate Be Kind to Animals Week. Do something nice for your family pet ... or feed the birds in a park.	3 Teach your child a favorite song from when you were his age.	4 Make sure your child has time each day just to relax.	5 Have your child make a list of words she can use that express anger without hurting feelings.	6 Ask your child to quiz you on something he is studying in school.	7 Take an early morning walk with your child. Look for signs of spring.
8 Ask the school about the schedule for end-of-year tests. Make sure your child eats a good breakfast those days.	9 Create a family joke book. Write one or two jokes per page. Staple pages together.	10 Choose a new unit of measurement. How many fingers long is your child's desk?	11 Have each family member make a list of personal strengths. Read them aloud. Add to each other's list.	12 It's Limerick Day. Challenge everyone in the family to try writing a funny limerick.	13 Help your child pick some flowers to give a bouquet to someone special.	14 Choose a famous person in history and ask your child to search the Internet for interesting facts about that person.
15 It's Physical Fitness and Sports Month. Enjoy some new physical activity you can do together as a family.	16 Try spending an entire day without modern technology. What can your family do instead?	17 Talk about responsibility and why it's so important. Look for people who demonstrate responsibility.	18 Ask your child to teach you how to play a game.	19 Do "body arithmetic." How much do your fingers, knees, toes and nose add up to?	20 Find the oldest building in your town. Visit it with your child and talk about local history.	21 At the grocery store, have your child compare two sizes of the same product. Which is the better buy?
22 Have your child write a list of the approved TV shows she will watch this week. Stick to the list.	23 Homework is read by a real person. When kids make it easy to read their work, grades can go up.	24 Play a family game that uses math. Monopoly® and Parcheesi® teach counting and strategy.	25 Call the family of one of your child's friends. Make plans for both families to do something together.	26 Go on a "people scavenger hunt." Find people who have skills or talents that interest your child.	27 Can your child swim? If not, sign up for lessons through your local pool.	28 Remember not to compare your child to others. Recognize his strengths.
29 Look in your newspaper for summer programs that your child might enjoy.	30 Have each family member write a funny sentence. Put them together to make a story.	31 Reviewing math facts? Get a piece of chalk and try writing problems on the sidewalk.	<h1>May 2011</h1>			