

# Parent & Child Activity Calendar

Elementary School  
**Parents**  
make the difference!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>December</b>		<b>1</b> Look in the newspaper for a listing of free holiday events. Plan to attend one this month.	<b>2</b> Plan to spend some one-on-one time with each child this month. Write the dates on your calendar.	<b>3</b> A rebus is a story that replaces some words with pictures. Make a rebus with your child.	<b>4</b> Choose a number, then have your child list all the things she can think of that come in that number.	<b>5</b> Do holidays have you stressed? Share the responsibility with your child. When he helps, he appreciates them even more.
<b>6</b> Make a TV viewing schedule with your child this week. Use it to plan how you'll both limit your viewing.	<b>7</b> Plan a week of alphabet dinners—serve foods that start with the same letter. Choose a different letter each day.	<b>8</b> Today, have your child teach you something she needs to learn for homework. It's a great way to reinforce learning.	<b>9</b> Teach your child how to make paper snowflakes. Fold paper or coffee filters and cut shapes. Decorate your windows with them.	<b>10</b> Trace your child's body on a big piece of paper. Then have her research and draw the inside!	<b>11</b> This holiday season, do something nice for others as a family.	<b>12</b> Take your child out for breakfast, or make it together this morning.
<b>13</b> Bake cookies with your child. If you're doubling a recipe, have your child do the math.	<b>14</b> Visit the library. Check out a book about holiday traditions around the world.	<b>15</b> When you're in the car, have your child estimate how far it is to your destination. Check using the odometer.	<b>16</b> Keep track of everything you eat for a day. What changes would you like to make?	<b>17</b> Play a game of "Concentration" with math flash cards. Problems with the same answer (9 x 2, 15 + 3) make a pair.	<b>18</b> Plan a late bedtime so everyone can read in bed. Everyone tells what they will be reading before they begin.	<b>19</b> Think of something nice your child can do for a neighbor or older friend.
<b>20</b> Set aside time today to work on craft projects with your child. Perhaps she can give these as gifts.	<b>21</b> Today is the Winter Solstice. Check the paper to see how many hours of daylight there will be today.	<b>22</b> As school vacation approaches, have your child make a list of things to do when there's nothing to do.	<b>23</b> Watch a TV program with your child. Make a graph of the time spent on commercials vs. the program.	<b>24</b> Read a favorite holiday story, poem or religious story with your child.	<b>25</b> Talk with your child about the very best present she ever received. What made it special?	<b>26</b> Enjoy some outdoor physical activity as a family today.
<b>27</b> Have a "backwards day." Put on pajamas after you get up. Eat breakfast food for dinner.	<b>28</b> Visit the library. Check out a biography about someone interesting from another country.	<b>29</b> Kids bored? Have them take turns as models, holding a pose while the other children draw or paint what they see.	<b>30</b> Have your child draw a picture of what he thinks describes and defines "December."	<b>31</b> Help your child create a time line of the last year.	<b>2009</b>	

© 2009 The Parent Institute®, a division of NIS, Inc. May be reproduced only as licensed by *Parents make the difference!*® Elementary School Edition newsletter. 1-800-756-5525

# Parent & Child Activity Calendar

Elementary School  
**Parents**  
make the difference!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>January 2010</b>					<b>1</b> Using an empty coffee can, have your child make a time capsule for the year just past.	<b>2</b> Make a list of the best times you had during the last year. Schedule time on the calendar to do them in 2010.
<b>3</b> Encourage your child to start a diary or journal this year.	<b>4</b> Visit the library. Help your child check out a book about origami, the Japanese art of paper folding.	<b>5</b> Make a puzzle with your child. Glue a picture from a magazine onto cardboard. Cut it into puzzle shapes.	<b>6</b> Tonight at dinner, put a "price" on each item you serve. Have your child figure out the "cost" of the meal.	<b>7</b> On this day in 1782, the first commercial bank was founded. Start a small savings account for your child.	<b>8</b> When you're in the car, have your child estimate how far it is to your destination. Check using the odometer.	<b>9</b> Practice origami with your child.
<b>10</b> Have a family sing-along. Have each family member share a favorite song!	<b>11</b> It's National Clean Off Your Desk Day. Make it Clean Off Your Homework Place Day, too!	<b>12</b> Challenge your child to put away 1 + 3 + 2 + 4 + 1 things in his room.	<b>13</b> The first radio broadcast was on this date in 1910. Instead of watching TV tonight, listen to the radio.	<b>14</b> Resist the urge to overschedule your kids. They need "down time" to think, imagine and play.	<b>15</b> It's National Soup Month. Make soup with your child—and enjoy the book <i>Stone Soup</i> together.	<b>16</b> Take a walk with your child. Note the seasonal changes.
<b>17</b> Have a contest. Who can name the most parts of the body? (Organs count, too.)	<b>18</b> Celebrate Martin Luther King's life. Talk with your child about prejudice.	<b>19</b> Watch the news with your child. Choose one story and compare it with the newspaper story.	<b>20</b> Help your child make a fruit salad for dinner tonight. Include one unfamiliar fruit.	<b>21</b> What's the coldest place in the nation today? The warmest? What's the difference between the two?	<b>22</b> Feed the birds. Use a notebook to record the kinds of birds you see.	<b>23</b> Check the newspaper to see if there's a place you and your child can go roller skating or ice skating.
<b>24</b> Help your child check out a book about a career.	<b>25</b> Do a crossword puzzle with your child. It's a great way to learn new words.	<b>26</b> When you're in the store, ask your child to figure how much change you should get from your purchase.	<b>27</b> It's the birthday of W. A. Mozart. Listen to some classical music with your child today.	<b>28</b> Write your child's name in a vertical column. Have him use each letter in his name to begin a poem.	<b>29</b> Have a reading dinner. Ask family members to share something from the books they are reading.	<b>30</b> Have your child help shop, prepare the dinner and clean up!
<b>31</b> Have your child write and mail a letter to a friend.						

© 2009 The Parent Institute®, a division of NIS, Inc. May be reproduced only as licensed by *Parents make the difference!*® Elementary School Edition newsletter. 1-800-756-5525



## Parent & Child Activity Calendar

Elementary School  
**Parents**  
make the difference!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b> Visit the library. Check out a book about African American history. Talk about your own family history.	<b>2</b> It's Groundhog Day. How many words can your child make from the letters in GROUNDHOG?	<b>3</b> It's the birthday of artist Norman Rockwell. Have your child draw a picture of an everyday activity.	<b>4</b> Have your child write directions for making a sandwich. Then follow them exactly.	<b>5</b> Together, think of several words that start with the same letter. Try to put them together in a sentence that makes sense.	<b>6</b> Look in the newspaper for free events your family can attend this month.
<b>7</b> Help your child choose some flowering bulbs. Learn how to "force" them so they'll bloom indoors.	<b>8</b> Tuck a Valentine in your child's lunch every day this week. Write a special "I love you" message on each.	<b>9</b> It's National Cherry Month and Great American Pie Month. Celebrate by baking a cherry pie with your child!	<b>10</b> Create an art gallery. Frame your child's art work. Rotate the work on display frequently!	<b>11</b> It's Inventor's Day. Have your child draw a picture of something she'd like to invent.	<b>12</b> Can you name an animal that starts with each letter of the alphabet? (It's okay to leave out X.)	<b>13</b> Take your child out to breakfast, or make it together this morning.
<b>14</b> Tell your child five things you love best about him.	<b>15</b> Visit the library. Help your child check out a book about a hobby.	<b>16</b> Look at car ads in the newspaper. Encourage your child to design and name a new car.	<b>17</b> Do "body arithmetic." Ask your child, "How many do your fingers, knees, toes and nose add up to?"	<b>18</b> Go "ice skating" in the kitchen together. Wearing only socks, pretend you're on the ice. Be careful!	<b>19</b> In 1473, Polish astronomer Nicolaus Copernicus was born. Have your child draw a picture of the solar system.	<b>20</b> Set aside time today to work on a hobby with your child.
<b>21</b> Go on a "fraction search" through today's newspaper. Which sections have the most fractions?	<b>22</b> It's the birthday of George Washington. How many facts can your child list about this famous president?	<b>23</b> Have your child draw a window picture. He can look out the window and draw what he sees!	<b>24</b> Start a family savings plan for a special goal. Plan the goal together and talk about how all will contribute.	<b>25</b> Play a family rhyming game. Take turns making up a short sentence. Answer with a sentence that rhymes.	<b>26</b> Ask family members, "If you were an animal, which animal would you be and why?"	<b>27</b> Make play clay. Mix 1 c. flour, 1/3 c. salt, a few drops of oil, and water to make it easy to handle.
<b>28</b> Visit an interesting museum with your child today.	<b>February 2010</b>					