


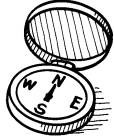













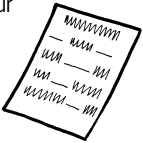




AN ACTIVITY A DAY

Note to Parents:










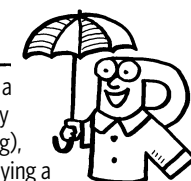


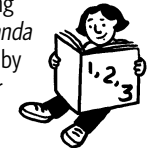


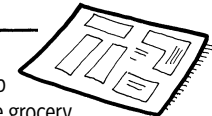
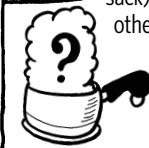





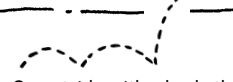


Hang this calendar on the refrigerator, and encourage your child to do an activity each day.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<p>Record yourself reading a story. Play it back. Record it again, using more expression as you read. How do you sound the second time?</p> 	<p>Ask everyone in your family to count the letters in their first and last names, and multiply the two numbers. Who has the "biggest" name? Who has the "smallest"?</p> 	<p>Create an acrostic poem for the season (example: spring). Write the word vertically, and use each letter to begin a line of your poem. (Sunny days/playing outside ...).</p> 	<p>Label your bedroom walls north, south, east, and west. Describe your room using direction words. ("My bed is in the northwest corner.")</p> 	<p>Play this vocabulary game with a parent. Take turns flipping to a random page in a book. Choose three words, and use them all in one sentence.</p> 
<p>Explore fractions with water and a set of measuring cups. See how many 1/8 cups, 1/4 cups, and 1/2 cups of water can fit into 1 cup.</p> 	<p>Cut out a picture (without the caption) from yesterday's newspaper. Read the article that goes with it, and then write a new photo caption.</p> 	<p>Walk through your house with a clipboard, paper, and pencil. Count the rooms, doors, steps, and windows. Make tally marks to keep track.</p> 	<p>Set up a reading corner with pillows, a blanket, and a basket of your favorite books. Curl up and read.</p> 	<p>Find out when everyday items (light bulb, toaster) were invented. Figure out how long they have been around. You can look up dates in <i>What a Great Idea!</i> (Stephen Tomecek) or at www.factmonster.com/ipka/A0768871.html.</p>
<p>On a sunny day, paint your name on the sidewalk with water. Watch it disappear. Do it again on a shady day. What happens?</p> 	<p>On a sunny day, paint your name on the sidewalk with water. Watch it disappear. Do it again on a shady day. What happens?</p>	<p>Create a pie graph to show what your family recycles. For a week, write down the number of newspapers, plastic bottles, and glass containers you put in the recycling bin. Then, divide a paper plate into three sections according to how much of each material you recycled.</p> 	<p>Choose a library book with chapters. Set a goal to read one chapter each day. You might try <i>Junie B, First Grader</i> (Barbara Park) or <i>Matilda</i> (Roald Dahl).</p> 	<p>Make a list of compound words (words made up of two different words) that contain "sun," "rain," and "snow." Examples: sunlight, rainfall, snowman.</p> 
<p>Put a United States map and a box of crayons in the car. Color in the states of license plates you see. (You can trace a map in your history book or print one from www.nationalatlas.gov/printable/images/pdf/outline/states.pdf.)</p> 	<p>Soak a kidney bean in water overnight. In the morning, carefully open the seed with your fingers. Draw a picture of what you see inside.</p> 	<p>Design a collage based on a fairy tale. Cut pictures from a magazine to go with the story, and glue them on paper. For "Cinderella," you could include a pumpkin, a horse, and shoes.</p> 	<p>Take turns grabbing a handful of toothpicks or paper clips. Without counting, try to take exactly 10. The person with the amount closest to 10 wins.</p> 	<p>Write a sentence, but replace each vowel with a blank. Challenge your parent to read the sentence. Then, ask him to give you a vowel-free sentence to read.</p> 
<p>Stack coins on each calendar square—the date tells you how many cents to put there.</p> <p>Example: 1 penny on the 1st of the month, or 1 dime, 1 nickel, and 3 pennies on the 18th (10 + 5 + 3 = 18).</p> 	<p>Write a message using ancient Egyptian hieroglyphics. Learn the alphabet by looking in an encyclopedia or at http://history-world.org/hieroglyphics.htm.</p> 			

Recipes for Success

AN ACTIVITY A DAY

Note to Parents:
Hang this calendar on the refrigerator, and encourage your child to do an activity each day.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<p>Make a shape picture. Cut circles, squares, triangles, and rectangles from different-colored construction paper. Arrange them to make houses, trees, people, or cars.</p> 	<p>Browse through a volume of poetry. Choose your favorite poem, and type it into an e-mail to a relative. Ask her to send you a poem she likes, too.</p> 	<p>Improve your eye-hand coordination by learning how to juggle. Read <i>The Usborne Book of Juggling</i> (Clive Gifford), or visit www.activitytv.com/juggling-for-kids.</p> 	<p>Draw instructions using symbols.</p> <p><i>Example:</i> For making eggs, draw a cracked egg, a fork for beating the egg, and a frying pan for cooking it. Can a parent follow your directions?</p> 	<p>Have your family sit in a circle. Toss a stuffed animal from person to person.</p> <p>Whoever catches it makes up one line of a story about the animal.</p> 
<p>Put four crayons (red, blue, green, yellow) in a bag. Pull out one at a time, and set it aside. What is the chance that you will pick red? <i>Note:</i> Always return the red crayon to the bag.</p> 	<p>Some authors use pretend, or "pen," names. Invent your own pen name. You might use your initials or parts of your name. Then, write a story under your new name.</p> 	<p>Tell an older relative your favorite food, song, movie, and hobby. Ask her about her favorite things when she was your age.</p> 	<p>Stop to look at a bulletin board in a library, community center, or store. Read several of the notices aloud. Can you find a new activity to try?</p> 	<p>Choose a category (clothing), and take turns saying a word that belongs. Each word must begin with the last letter of the previous word. <i>Example:</i> pants, sweater, raincoat.</p> 
<p>Make all the words you can from one set of magnetic letters. Try to use up as many of the letters as possible — but don't use the same one twice!</p> 	<p>Make a top. Draw colorful designs on a paper plate. Push a pencil through the center, and tape it securely to the plate. Spin your top on the floor or a table.</p> 	<p>Read a story that mentions numbers, and make up math problems using the characters. Try <i>Amanda Bean's Amazing Dream</i> by Cindy Neuschwander or <i>Splash!</i> by Ann Jonas.</p> 	<p>Use a ruler to measure the area of rectangles in your house. How many square inches are there on a television screen, coffee table, or cereal box?</p> 	<p>Make a "Reading in Progress" sign for your bedroom. Cut a rectangle from construction paper, and decorate it. Then, hang it from your doorknob with yarn or string.</p> 
<p>Draw a map of the grocery store. Label the produce section, dairy case, bread aisle, meat department, and checkout. Use the map when you go grocery shopping with an adult.</p> 	<p>Secretly choose a pair of rhyming words (hot, pot; black, sack). Give clues to help others guess your rhyme (steaming pan, dark bag).</p> 	<p>Write as many number sentences as you can that add up to 10 (6 + 4, 5 + 5). There are 11 — can you think of them all? <i>Hint:</i> Remember to use 0.</p> 	<p>Make a "Reading in Progress" sign for your bedroom. Cut a rectangle from construction paper, and decorate it. Then, hang it from your doorknob with yarn or string.</p> 	<p><i>The Old Farmer's Almanac</i> predicts the weather for an entire year! Go to the library and look up this week and last week in the almanac. How accurate are the forecasts?</p> 
<p>Create a dance routine with a pattern. <i>Example:</i> step, slide, clap, clap, clap; step, slide, clap, clap, clap. Teach your routine to someone, and perform it together.</p> 	<p>Look through the newspaper for five minutes.</p> <p>How many different uses of numbers (time, temperature, money) can you find?</p> 	<p>Go outside with a basketball or tennis ball, and bounce it on different surfaces. <i>Examples:</i> concrete, asphalt, wood, dirt, plastic. Where does the ball bounce the highest?</p> 	<p>Read a biography of a famous person. Find three things the two of you have in common. List questions you would like to ask him or her.</p> 	<p>Tell a sibling a bedtime story based on your favorite book. Try not to look at the book while you retell the events in your own words.</p> 

Recipes for Success