1. This is Library Card Sign-Up Month. Make sure everyone in your family has a library card—and knows how to use it.

2. Think of a meaningful quotation you love. Post it where your child will see it.

3. Establish a regular place to display your child’s best schoolwork. Change the display often.

4. Tonight, talk with your child about the week ahead. Plan to do this every Sunday night.

5. A calendar is important for organization. Buy or make one with your child. Together, mark important dates with stickers.

6. Ask your child to guess how many times each of you blinks in a minute. Then check: Count blinks for 15 seconds and multiply by 4.

7. Establish a regular time for your child to do schoolwork. Choose the time together.

8. When your child is unsuccessful, ask, “How would you do it differently next time?”

9. Review the school rules together. Post the rules on your refrigerator.

10. Turn chores into a game. Give each task a number and have your child roll a die to get an assignment.

11. If you haven’t met your child’s teacher yet, make plans to do so, either in person or online.

12. At dinner, have each family member say something nice about every person at the table.

13. Play math “Jeopardy.” Give a number. Who can come up with an equation for which it is the answer?

14. When your child asks a question you can’t answer, write it down. Keep a list of questions to look up later.

15. Have your child list ways family members read and write at home.


17. Today is Constitution Day in the United States. Explain that a constitution is a framework for governing a country and its people.

18. Ask what your child is most looking forward to this school year.

19. Have your child name five jobs that might be interesting to do. Try to help your child interview someone in one of these jobs or fields.

20. Tonight at dinner, put a “price” on each item you serve. Have your child figure out the total cost of the meal.

21. When your child has a problem, offer two possible solutions. Let your child decide which one to choose.

22. It’s the Autumnal Equinox. Help your child look up the word *equinox*. What does it mean?

23. Write down five of your child’s successes this week and five of your own. Post the list where you can both see it.

24. Check out some new books from the library today. Sit in a cozy chair with your child and read a few together.

25. Help your child research the answer to a question.

26. Have your child write down a weekly goal. Make one for yourself, too.

27. Ask your child, “What is your favorite animal? Why do you like it?”

28. Praise something your child did well today. Make your praise as specific as possible.

29. Have your child write or dictate a short story about a favorite teacher.

30. Talk with your child about honesty and why it is important.
October 2022

1. Pick a word of the day. Challenge family members to use it in a sentence. Make this a daily habit.
2. Take a walk with your child and use all five senses to observe the world around you.
3. Play math facts baseball. Quiz each other. A correct answer is a "base" hit.
4. Start a made-up story. "A man went down the road and he met a ... ." Let your child finish the story.
5. How many words can your child make from the letters in OCTOBER?
6. Does your child know who to call in an emergency? Make a list and post it on your refrigerator. Practice what to say.
7. When your child shows you schoolwork, talk about things that are correct before noting what is wrong.
8. Download an audiobook from the library to listen to with your child.
9. Help your child find out what's inside a seed. Soak a dry bean overnight. Let your child remove its coat and pull the halves apart.
10. Have family members make a list of their strengths. Read them aloud. Add to one another's lists.
11. Ask your child, "What was the most interesting thing you learned today?"
12. Talk about fire safety. What should your child do in case of a fire?
13. Have a jump rope contest. See how many jumps you and your child can do in a row.
14. Let your child stay up 30 minutes past bedtime as a treat. The catch? The time must be spent reading!
15. Share family stories with your child. Ask relatives to share some, too.

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16. Go for a walk or bike ride with your child today. Challenge each other to spot something you haven’t seen before.
17. Help your child do something nice for someone else.
18. Talk with your child about why students who keep up with their schoolwork earn better grades.
19. Teach your child to defend against bullying by saying no, walking away from fights and telling an adult.
20. Watch the news with your child. Locate one place mentioned on a world map.
21. Talk about one of your favorite books. Ask about one of your child’s.
22. Look for signs of fall: changing daylight, colored leaves, pumpkins, etc.
23. Review math facts with your child tonight.
24. Put on music and spend 15 minutes drawing or writing with your child. Let the music be your inspiration.
25. Turn off the lights and read books by flashlight with your child.
26. Let your child see you keep your temper when you are upset. Instead of yelling, calmly talk about how you feel.
27. It’s Theodore Roosevelt’s birthday. Help your child look up interesting facts about this president and protector of the environment.
28. Pick an interesting news article. Ask your child to read it to you while you prepare dinner.
29. Write an encouraging note to your child. Tuck it in a school notebook.
30. Encourage your child to draw a self-portrait.
31. Celebrate National Popcorn Poppin’ Month. Pop some popcorn and curl up with some mystery books.

November 2021

1. Set aside some time this month to do something with your child that you enjoyed at the same age.
2. Talk with your child about ways to handle stress. Getting enough sleep, exercising and talking to someone are helpful options.
3. Play Concentration with fractions. Try to make pairs of equivalent fractions: 1/2 and 2/4, 3/5 and 6/10 and so on.
4. Start a family savings jar. Everyone can decide what the goal will be and how they will contribute.
5. Have everyone bring an interesting science fact to share at dinner.
6. Make up a secret code with your child. Use it to write notes this week.
7. Hug your child, for no reason other than to show your love.
8. Ask your child, "If you could be a famous person from history, who would you be? Why?"
9. Play charades with your child. Use hand gestures to act out words.
10. Pick a category (such as animals) and a letter. How many items can your child name that fit in that category and start with that letter?
11. Talk about service. Discuss ways your family can do something for others in the coming holiday season.
12. When you read aloud to your child, choose an exciting place to stop. Ask, "What do you think will happen next?"
13. Learn a tongue twister together. At dinner, challenge everyone to repeat it three times fast.
14. Ask what actions or accomplishments your child is proud of.
15. To encourage a beginning reader, look for books with "read-along" audiobooks. Your child can listen and read at the same time.

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16. Put together a jigsaw puzzle with your child.
17. Have a reading dinner. Ask everyone to bring a book they like to share. Talk about the books at the table.
18. Help your child make puppets by drawing faces on the bottom flaps of small paper bags.
19. If you have already said "No," avoid giving in to repeated demands from your child.
20. Enjoy some outdoor exercise as a family today.
21. Hold a "guess that number" contest: "How many noodles are in this bag?" "How many cookies are in that box?"
22. Allow a few minutes after the light is off at bedtime for a quiet conversation with your child.
23. Never let your child forget that you are on the same team.
24. Make a list of all the things that make your family members thankful.
25. Write three one-digit numbers on a card. How many equations can your child make and solve with those numbers?
26. Take a "counting walk" together. Pick something to count (cars, signs, flowers, bikes) and keep track.
27. Have your child write new or difficult words on index cards. Review them together regularly until your child can read and spell them.
28. Choose a Person of the Week. Help your child learn more about that person.
29. When you watch TV with your child, ask questions: "Why do you think that person did that?" "Would you do that?"
30. Learn the sign language alphabet with your child. Use it to help practice spelling words.