

## OFFICE OF FAMILY & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

### TODAY'S FAMILY **LEARNING TIP**\*

#### August

- 1 August is Family Fun Month! Research places online that you and your family can visit to have fun before the summer ends. Check out these ideas: [www.babble.com/kid/august-is-family-fun-month-31-ideas-to-celebrate/](http://www.babble.com/kid/august-is-family-fun-month-31-ideas-to-celebrate/)
- 2 The first public school was established in 1635 in Boston. How old is your child's school? Have him or her do research to find out!
- 3 Check your children's progress with their recommended summer reading lists. Make sure that the books are available at home or the library. Check out your local library at [www.bcpl.info/](http://www.bcpl.info/).
- 4 Make orange cream treats with six ounces of orange juice concentrate, six ounces of water, one cup of plain low-fat yogurt, and one teaspoon of vanilla. Freeze and enjoy with your family!
- 5 In 1955, General Motors demonstrated the world's first solar-powered car in Chicago. What is solar power? How does it work? Ask your child if he or she knows! Learn more at [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Solar\\_power](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Solar_power).
- 6 How many minutes have passed in 2016? How many seconds? Have your children do the math!
- 7 In 1789, Congress declared August 7 as National Lighthouse Day. Does your child know which U.S. lighthouse was the first to use electricity? Research lighthouses here: <http://uslhs.org/fun/lighthouse-festivals-events/national-lighthouse-day>
- 8 August 8 is the Date to Create! Encourage your children to use their imagination to create dream-catchers, dioramas, or summertime wreaths!
- 9 Encourage your child to collect weather data – air temperature, rainfall, and general weather conditions – through a week. At the end of the week, review the data and make predictions about the weather next week. Check their forecast at [www.weather.com](http://www.weather.com).
- 10 Happy Play in the Sand Day! Beaches are full of sand, but where does all that sand come from? Have your children investigate online and report their findings!
- 11 Teach time management: Have your child estimate how long a project will take, complete the project, and then compare his or her estimation with the actual time.
- 12 Check the newspaper and Internet for sales on school supplies. Set a budget and work with your children to allow them to pick some of the items.

\*For additional ideas and daily parent tips, visit the [Maryland State Department of Education Family Literacy Take 15 Web page](#). Click on English or Spanish to view the tips.

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- 13 Today is International Left-Handers' Day! Does your child know what ambidextrous means? Have him or her grab a pencil and paper to see if he or she is ambidextrous. [www.lefthandersday.com/](http://www.lefthandersday.com/)
- 14 What if George Washington was one of your child's long-lost relatives? Have your child ask you, grandparents, and great-grandparents for their help in creating a family tree!
- 15 Ask questions while you are travelling: Why are speed limits necessary? What are mile markers? How would your child design a highway system? Start your research here: [www.history.com/topics/interstate-highway-system](http://www.history.com/topics/interstate-highway-system)
- 16 In 1989, an Exxon tanker ran aground in Alaska, causing the nation's worst environmental disaster in history. Have your family brainstorm ways to help the environment.
- 17 Show your children how to use math every day. Count street signs, measure the stride of your steps, or calculate the distance to a local park.
- 18 Happy Serendipity Day! Do your children know what "serendipity" means? Have them look it up in a dictionary and report their findings to family and friends. Learn more here: <https://ayearofholidays.wordpress.com/2013/08/17/august-18-serendipity-day/>
- 19 What makes a family? Have your family talk to and visit friends, relatives, neighbors, and even pets. Then, take a family portrait!
- 20 Let's review numbers! Encourage your child to memorize your phone number if he or she has not already. Then, add or multiply the numbers together!
- 21 August 21 is Senior Citizens' Day! Volunteer your family's services at a local retirement home. The senior citizens there will be very appreciative! Check out Senior Citizens' Day at [www.timeanddate.com/holidays/us/senior-citizens-day](http://www.timeanddate.com/holidays/us/senior-citizens-day).
- 22 Review street safety. Ask your children to identify traffic signs. When crossing the street, why is it best to look left, right, and left again? Take a look at these safety tips: [www.safekids.org/walkingsafelytips](http://www.safekids.org/walkingsafelytips)
- 23 In 1923, women in the United States became able to wear trousers at any time. Which countries still have clothing restrictions for women? Work with your child to find out!
- 24 If an NBA superstar averages 32 points a game, about how many points would that player score in an 82-game season?

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- 25 Create your own family crossword puzzle with clues like "Which aunt plays the piano?" or "Which uncle loves to play golf?"
- 26 Women's Equality Day celebrates the day that women received the right to vote in 1920. Does your child know which amendment granted women this right? Learn about the day here: [www.nwhp.org/resources/commemorations/womens-equality-day/](http://www.nwhp.org/resources/commemorations/womens-equality-day/)
- 27 The northernmost and westernmost points of the United States are in the same state. Can your child locate this state on a map?
- 28 Check your family's sports equipment for safety. Does it fit properly? Does it meet safety standards? Is it in good condition?
- 29 Read with your children every chance that you get. Read everything from picture books to daily newspapers. Talk about what you have read together.
- 30 The Chesapeake Bay is the largest inlet on the East Coast. How does the bay affect daily life and the economy in Maryland? Discuss this question with your child! Learn more here: <http://msa.maryland.gov/msa/mdmanual/01glance/html/ches.html>
- 31 Today is Eat Outside Day! Host a cookout with family and neighbors and enjoy hamburgers, hotdogs, and corn on the cob in the summer sun! Check it out: [www.timeanddate.com/holidays/fun/eat-outside-day](http://www.timeanddate.com/holidays/fun/eat-outside-day)

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