



## OFFICE OF FAMILY & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TODAY'S FAMILY LEARNING TIP



Educating & Empowering Families

### February

- 1 Have you checked out the Painted Palette's family events? The art studio hosts one class each month for kids all of ages. See when this month's class is by visiting [www.paintedpalettebaltimore.com/index.php?i=family-events](http://www.paintedpalettebaltimore.com/index.php?i=family-events).
- 2 It's Groundhog Day! Did the groundhog see its shadow? What does it mean if it did? Go to [www.groundhog.org/about/history/](http://www.groundhog.org/about/history/) with your children to learn more about this annual holiday.
- 3 Do your children love snow? Help them bring it indoors – without it melting on the floors! – by making one of the 24 snowmen crafts at [www.handsonaswegrow.com/24-snowman-crafts-kids/](http://www.handsonaswegrow.com/24-snowman-crafts-kids/).
- 4 It's a twist on an old favorite! Take your children to see Honk, Jr., a take on Hans Christian Anderson's The Ugly Duckling, at the Pumpkin Theatre today! For more information, go to [www.pumpkintheatre.org](http://www.pumpkintheatre.org).
- 5 What are your teens doing this summer? If they're interested in pre-college programs, now's the time to start making arrangements. Check out the list of programs and camps at [www.studenteducationprograms.com/maryland/](http://www.studenteducationprograms.com/maryland/).
- 6 Has your family visited the National Electronics Museum? It's fun, free, and not too far away! Plan your visit at [www.nationalelectronicsmuseum.org](http://www.nationalelectronicsmuseum.org).
- 7 The periodic table currently has 118 elements. Celebrate National Periodic Table Day with your children today by seeing who can memorize the most!
- 8 Building a snowman is fun, but it's also a chance for children to sharpen their knowledge of shapes! Ask your child to identify the shapes of the snowman's eyes, nose, and scarf.
- 9 Every day, Americans eat about 100 acres of pizza. But how much do they eat in miles? Yards? Challenge your child to find out for National Pizza Day!
- 10 What kinds of animals live in your area? Go out in the backyard or take a trip to a nearby park and have your children identify the various animals they see.
- 11 Today is National Inventors' Day. Support your child's ingenuity by encouraging him or her to brainstorm something to invent today!
- 12 Happy birthday, Abraham Lincoln! If Lincoln was born in 1809, how old would he be today? Ask your child to do the math!



## OFFICE OF FAMILY & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TODAY'S FAMILY LEARNING TIP



Educating & Empowering Families

- 13 Guglielmo Marconi transmitted the first radio signal in 1895, changing the way people communicated. How has communication over long distances changed since then? Discuss with your child!
- 14 Happy Valentine's Day! Did you know people give almost 150 million Valentine's Day cards each year? It's true! Check out this and other facts with your child at [www.history.com/topics/valentines-day/valentines-day-facts](http://www.history.com/topics/valentines-day/valentines-day-facts).
- 15 It's always nice to lend a hand! Help your child get involved with the community by checking out the volunteer opportunities at [www.baltimore.cbslocal.com/top-lists/best-volunteer-opportunities-for-kids-in-baltimore/](http://www.baltimore.cbslocal.com/top-lists/best-volunteer-opportunities-for-kids-in-baltimore/).
- 16 Are you running out of books to read at story time? Write a new one with your child and encourage him or her to provide the illustrations!
- 17 Is your family planning on going away this summer? Invite your children to join a discussion about where to go! For some ideas, visit [www.baltimoresun.com/travel/bs-tr-100-day-trips-pg-photogallery.html](http://www.baltimoresun.com/travel/bs-tr-100-day-trips-pg-photogallery.html).
- 18 Is it true? Can you really use a potato to power a clock? Yes! Create a potato battery with your child by following the instructions at [www.pbskids.org/zoom/activities/phenom/potatobattery.html](http://www.pbskids.org/zoom/activities/phenom/potatobattery.html).
- 19 Did you know general admission to the Baltimore Museum of Art is free? It's true! Take your family today or plan your visit at [www.artbma.org](http://www.artbma.org).
- 20 It's Presidents Day! The United States inaugurated its 44th president last month, but by some counts, that number could actually be 45. Do your children know why? Here's a hint: Grover Cleveland.
- 21 When you're running errands, take your children with you. They can build their math skills by calculating the cost of gas, the number of miles traveled, and the arrival time!
- 22 Bubbles are fun – and educational, too! When blowing bubbles with your children, ask them to observe closely. What shape are they? What colors do they reflect? How long do they last before popping?
- 23 When your family goes out to eat, don't pull out the calculator on your phone! Instead, ask your child to calculate the tip.



## OFFICE OF FAMILY & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TODAY'S FAMILY LEARNING TIP



Educating & Empowering Families

- 
- 24 Have fun with shadows! Go outside at different times throughout the day and measure the length of your child's shadow. How does the sun affect whether shadows are tall or short? Discuss your ideas!
  - 25 Are your teens looking for summer jobs? Support their success by helping them with their applications, résumés, and interview skills. For tips, go to [www.livecareer.com/quintessential/teen-first-job](http://www.livecareer.com/quintessential/teen-first-job).
  - 26 What's your child's favorite fairy tale? Read it together and then ask your child to give you a summary. By summarizing his or her reading, your child will develop stronger critical-thinking and memory skills!
  - 27 Did you know polar bears can weigh up to 1,600 pounds and live for 30 years? Share these and other polar bear facts with your child by visiting [www.animals.nationalgeographic.com/animals/mammals/polar-bear/](http://www.animals.nationalgeographic.com/animals/mammals/polar-bear/) together.
  - 28 The forecast predicts the weather in the future, but a weather calendar can show trends over time. Encourage your child to keep a weather calendar. After a week or two, discuss any trends you two notice.