

OFFICE OF FAMILY & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

TODAY'S FAMILY **LEARNING TIP***

July

- 1 Astronaut Edward H. White was the first American to walk in space in 1965. He used jet propulsion during his spacewalk. Ask your child how he or she would use a jet pack.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jet_pack
- 2 July is Recreation and Parks Month! Go online and look for ways that your family can have fun outdoors! Here are some ideas to start: www.nrpa.org/july/
- 3 Make ice cream sandwiches with your child's favorite flavor and cookies. Does your child know who invented the ice cream sandwich? Find out about these sweet delights in other parts of the world here: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ice_cream_sandwich
- 4 Happy Independence Day! Help your child to investigate the science behind fireworks and explain your findings to family and friends before you see fireworks tonight! Check it out: www.theverge.com/2013/7/4/4489980/how-do-fireworks-work
- 5 Ask your younger children for help sorting the laundry into categories by color. Which colors can be washed together?
- 6 With your children, play the alphabet travel game. Each player finds a letter in order: A in Annapolis, B in bus stop, C in caution, etc.
- 7 Today is Eid al-Fitr, which means "Festival of Breaking of the Fast." Many Muslims celebrate this holiday, but does your child know which Islamic holiday started the fast associated with this special day? Learn about the holidays here: <http://islam.about.com>.
- 8 Today is Math 2.0 Day, a day celebrating technology's impact on mathematic advancement. Discuss both the benefits of and the challenges created by technology with your children.
- 9 Observe the sky – day and night – with your child. Have him or her discuss changes with fellow sky-gazers.
- 10 What are the differences between moths and butterflies? What are some similarities between the two? Discuss these questions with your child! Look up differences here: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Comparison_of_butterflies_and_moths
- 11 Write a summertime song to celebrate the season with your children. Have them include their favorite activities and summer treats.

*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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- 12 Encourage your family to practice “Leave No Trace” during outdoor activities: Plan ahead, dispose of litter, respect wildlife, and leave areas better than you found them! Learn more at <https://lnt.org/>.
 - 13 The Maryland sales tax is six percent. Without a calculator, have your child calculate the total cost, including tax, on purchases of school supplies.
 - 14 Happy Bastille Day, known in France as the Fête Nationale! Help your children discover the fascinating history of this holiday by browsing your local library for books on France. Check it out at <http://bastille-day.com/>.
 - 15 Encourage your younger children to look for patterns in roads, homes, books, and songs. What makes a pattern?
 - 16 July 16 is National Personal Chef Day! Head to the kitchen with your child and start baking up a culinary masterpiece for you and your family to share! Learn more here: <http://nationaldaycalendar.com/national-personal-chef-day-july-16/>
 - 17 Is it really possible to fry an egg on the sidewalk on a hot day? Have your children find out just how hot the sidewalk gets. Would you eat that egg? Here's what the Library of Congress has to say: www.loc.gov/rr/scitech/mysteries/friedegg.html
 - 18 Try a throwing race with your child. Take turns throwing a ball and measuring the length that it is thrown. How can you measure how high the ball is thrown?
 - 19 Do lightning bugs really have lights? How do they glow? Can you see them during the day? Discuss these questions with your child! Check out this information about lightning bugs: <http://animals.nationalgeographic.com/animals/bugs/firefly/>
 - 20 What if Maryland had snow in the summer? Have your children write a story about how they would spend their summer vacations.
 - 21 Encourage your younger children to learn basic mathematics by matching pairs of socks and counting by two's.
 - 22 Hammock Day is the perfect time to catch up on rest and relaxation! Make some lemonade, apply some sunblock, and spend the day outside on a hammock with your family! <http://nationaldaycalendar.com/national-hammock-day-july-22/>
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- 23 In 1919, the Treaty of Versailles was signed, ending World War I. Which countries signed the treaty? What country refused to sign? Learn history with your child!
www.historylearningsite.co.uk/modern-world-history-1918-to-1980/the-treaty-of-versailles/
- 24 Today is Parents' Day! Let your children lend a hand around the house today! They can clean their rooms, make lunch, walk the dog, etc. The possibilities are endless! Check some of them out at www.parentsday.com/.
- 25 Review homework without revealing answers. Place a check mark on the line where you see an error. Allow your student to find and correct the mistake.
- 26 July 26 is Aunts and Uncles Day! Ask your children why their aunts and uncles are important to them. Then, encourage your children to send a card to let them know!
- 27 Plan menus for the week with your family. Talk about healthy meals, create lists, and go shopping together. Talk about budgets and responsible choices.
- 28 Visit the Maryland Science Center, the National Aquarium, and/or the Maryland Zoo. Have your children write down their observations and compare notes after the trip!
- 29 Take care of your pets. Have your older children help to make sure that they have plenty of water in hot months. Arrange to have someone feed and walk your pets if you are away.
- 30 Ask your younger children to help unpack grocery bags and sort the food by categories.
- 31 Review traffic rules and procedures. Make sure students understand traffic signs and lights by talking about the shapes and colors as you drive.

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