

OFFICE OF FAMILY & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

TODAY'S FAMILY LEARNING TIP*

September 2014

- 1 Labor Day celebrates workers and their contributions to society. Ask your child how he or she would like to contribute to society and then brainstorm ways to make those contributions a reality.
- 2 September is Classical Music and Piano Month! Have your children demonstrate their musical talents by performing their own renditions of a Beethoven or Mozart classic!
- 3 Learn to conserve: if you turn off the water while you brush your teeth, you could save 100 gallons of water per month! How many gallons could your family save each day?
- 4 Exercise helps your mind and body. Make sure that your family is active for at least part of the day and be sure to drink plenty of water!
- 5 Play alphabet search: one person finds an object that begins with an "a," the next person searches for a "b" object and so on.
- 6 It's Fight Procrastination Day. Have your children spend an hour or two today getting ahead on school assignments or house chores.
- 7 Today is Grandparents Day. Did your children send their grandparents a card? Remind your students in elementary school to share their BCPS Grandparents Day cards today!
- 8 The United Nations created International Literacy Day in 1965 to celebrate learning worldwide. Sit in a comfy chair and read a good book with your child!
- 9 Have your children practice what to say if they are offered drugs or alcohol. Assure them that they are able to stand up to peer pressure.
- 10 Which famous painting by Leonardo da Vinci was stolen from the Louvre in Paris in 1911? (It was recovered two years later.) Have your children search online!
- 11 Today is Patriot Day, which remembers those who lost their lives 13 years ago on this date. How can your children pay tribute to those affected by this incident?
- 12 Keep track of your child's homework habits. Some kids tackle their schoolwork right away; others need a break before tasks. Help your child pick what works best.

*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 Have your child write a letter to a special friend or family member. What does he or she like best about that person? Ask him or her to write it down and send it!
- 14 Encourage individuality in your family. Have family members identify what makes each person special. Reward your children for their uniqueness.
- 15 Hispanic Heritage Month begins today on the anniversary of independence for what five Latin American countries? Challenge your family to see who can guess Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua first!
- 16 It's Preserve the Ozone Day! What is the ozone layer, and how can recycling help to preserve it?
- 17 The Constitutional Congress held its final meeting on this date in 1787. What historic document ensures "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness" for all?
- 18 Celebrate the International Day of Peace by participating in the "Pinwheels for Peace" program with your children.
- 19 Show your children how to use math every day. Count street signs, measure the stride of your steps or calculate the distance to school.
- 20 In 1947, Pakistan gained its independence from the United Kingdom. Have your child find Pakistan on a map and name the continent where it is located.
- 21 Many Baltimore County Public Libraries offer pre-school story times. Visit with your child to nurture an early love of reading.
- 22 Today is Elephant Appreciation Day. There are two types of elephants. Quiz your children to see who can guess the two types first!
- 23 Check on your child's homework routine. Is homework completed in a reasonable amount of time without distractions?
- 24 It's Rabbit Day! How many famous rabbits can your family name? The winner earns a tall and delicious carrot!

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- 25 Today is Rosh Hashanah! Have your children log on to the Internet and research the history of this Jewish holiday.
- 26 Instead of a weekend out of town, plan a "camp-in." Set up a tent indoors or use blankets. Pick your favorite books and read by flashlight.
- 27 Women were granted the right to vote in 1920 with the passage of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution. Why is the right to vote important?
- 28 It's Family Health and Fitness Day. Review your family's eating and exercise habits. Have your children create a regular workout routine.
- 29 How many minutes have passed in 2014? How many seconds? Have your children do the math!
- 30 American singer Elvis Presley was born in 1935 and performed country, blues, gospel and rock. How many types of music can your child name?

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