

March 17, 2020

Dear Parents,

Please find your child's suggested home learning packet. This packet includes a comprehensive list of activities from each area of our Montessori classroom for you to try at home. The listing indicates when there is an item in the kit or a sheet that we have provided for you that corresponds to that specific work. The math, language, and social studies items that have been highlighted are appropriate for your child. Activities in the other areas are designed for all the children, depending on their interest. Use this as a resource to help bring Montessori learning into your home.

Please designate a special place in your home that can be your child's workspace during this time. They can use this space each day and keep their work in an organized way here.

We have also included a daily recordkeeping sheet and a daily reading log. Please indicate the activities your child completes as well as the books you enjoy in the appropriate space on these logs – this will help us see what your child has experienced during our time away!

Please know that I am here for you during this time. If there is an activity you do not understand or you need assistance, please email me with any questions.

RESOURCES

Good Home Learning Tips:

- **Create Routines** – Our children thrive on routine. Consider keeping their regular bedtime and morning routines, sitting down for lunch at the same time as they do at school, and writing out a daily schedule so that they know the plan for the day. Keeping these small things consistent can help our kids to feel regulated, calm and make a potentially scary situation feel much more predictable.
- **Schedule Recess/Playtime** – While home is often seen as a place to relax and have fun, scheduling recess or play/downtime may help kids to feel like there is more of a routine. Scheduled recess allows for a child to predict when they will have a break to move their bodies and decompress.
- **Use Screens Wisely** – Many parents will no doubt be working from home and have significant to-do lists of their own. While watching movies and favorite TV shows is likely an inevitable – and in many ways beneficial – tool to pass the time, consider exploring some more educational screen-based options as part of your child's day. Resources such as [National Geographic Kids](#), [PBS KIDS.org](#), [ScienceDaily.com](#), [educationworld.com](#), [TIME For Kids](#) among others can help to provide more academic content, including Social Studies, Science, Current Events and more.
- **Move Your Body** – While getting outside for some fresh air is the ideal way for our children to move their bodies, this may not be an option. Thankfully, there are some creative ways to make sure our kids get in time for gross motor movement. Consider options such as [GoNoodle.com](#), [Cosmickids.com](#) and [Gaia.com](#) for whole body movement and yoga videos. If you are looking for options other than video-based activities, consider building a pillow fort, keeping balloons off of the ground, having a dance party or setting up a home-made obstacle course.
- **Bolster Life Skills Education** – Consider spending this time teaching some skills in the home: have kids help with the process of doing a whole load of laundry from start to finish, work through a recipe for dinner together or clean surfaces around the house while explaining how to safely use different cleaning products. All of these experiences help a child to understand their future role as independent adults.
- **Work on the Broader [Executive Functioning \(EF\)](#) Skills** – [EF](#) includes skills such as problem solving, time management, goal setting and organization. Provide sorting activities, have a child create their own schedule, set a daily goal, practice telling time or play some problem-solving games such as Heads-up, Charades or Guess Who.

Taken from NESCA (Neuropsychology and Education Services for Children and Adolescents)

How to Talk to Your Child About Covid-19:

[https://www.nasponline.org/resources-and-publications/resources-and-podcasts/school-climate-safety-and-crisis/health-crisis-resources/talking-to-children-about-covid-19-\(coronavirus\)-a-parent-resource](https://www.nasponline.org/resources-and-publications/resources-and-podcasts/school-climate-safety-and-crisis/health-crisis-resources/talking-to-children-about-covid-19-(coronavirus)-a-parent-resource)

Free Educational Resources/Online Subscriptions Available Now:

- Allie from No Time for Flashcards is offering [Spring themed preschool lesson plans](#) for FREE. Simply use the code 100 and you're good to go.
- [Playful Learning](#) is offering online member FREE for 30 days. We use these during the school year and the ideas and printables are great!
- [Google Earth](#) FREE lessons for kids
- [National Geographic](#) Classroom Resources
- [Scholastic LEARN AT HOME](#) Free lessons
- https://educators.brainpop.com/2020/02/19/free-brainpop-access-for-schools-affected-by-the-coronavirus/?utm_source=organic&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=coronavirus&utm_content=free-access

For Brain Pop, you will need to put in your email and information. Brain Pop Junior is appropriate for preschool and kindergarten children. This contains short videos and then has activities that go along with the video.

Practical Life Activities:

1. Practice zipping and buttoning coat and clothes
2. Practice tying shoes
3. Help to set the table (put out placemats, if available), napkins, cups, silverware
4. Sort clothes for laundry and help pair socks
5. Lacing Work (in kit)
6. Fold laundry
7. Help with cooking
 - a. Record a recipe (see recipe sheet)
 - b. Cut vegetables
 - c. Measure
 - d. Mix
 - e. Crack eggs
8. Help clean home (wipe windows, doorknobs, light switches, wipe table off when done working, wipe off counters – use baby wipes, paper towels, cut sponges in half)
9. Put a piece of painter's tape on the floor and practice walking, jumping, hopping on one foot, skipping on the line.)
10. Practice cutting (scissors in kit/ sheet)
11. Make play dough (recipe sheet)
12. Use modeling clay (in kit)
13. Paint a picture and have parent write about picture or write words about your picture (watercolors in kit)
14. Make a necklace by stringing pasta or beads (yarn in kit)

Math:

1. Practice correct number formation (sheet)
2. Identify numbers 0-9 (Use small objects around the house: Legos, beans, marbles, blocks) (Find sticky notes in kit to label how many you used in each)
3. Identify numbers 10 -19 in same way (Use small objects around the house: Legos, beans, marbles, blocks) (Find sticky notes in kit to label how many you used in each)
4. Writing 1-100 (sheet)
5. Practice teen numbers (sheet)
6. Greater or Less Than (sheet)
7. Equal and Non-equal (sheet)
8. Dice Addition Game (sheet): use dice or make numbers with sticky notes to create equations; use equation paper to record
9. Subtraction: use objects from your home and record on equation paper (sheet)
10. Money Practice: use coins to practice quantities
11. Time Practice: looking at your own clock, talk about time of day and creates schedules for the day based on time (ex. "We will have our work time from 9:30 – 10:30 am. What do the hands on the clock look like at this time?")
12. Looking at a calendar – practice days of the week, months of the year
13. Ruler Work – (rulers are in kits); measure items around your home
14. Graph your favorite things (sheet)
15. Make geometric solids (3-dimensional shapes) using outlines (sheets)
16. Math puzzle 1-10: connect the numbers (sheet)
17. Play board games
18. Do puzzles
19. Counting around the house: e.g., how many windows, doors, closets, bathrooms, pairs of shoes do we have? Older children can create a chart using numbers or tally marks.
20. Play games together (Uno, Cards, Memory,)

Language:

1. Practice correct letter formation (sheet)
2. Practice using stencils. Use these like our metal insets – children should use correct pencil grip. (in kit)
3. Practice writing your full name. Kindergarten children should use correct upper and lower case letters.
4. Find objects that begin with these sounds and practice saying the sounds (please use the short vowel sound for vowels):
 - a. Initial sound group 1: c, o, a, d, g
 - b. Initial sound group 2: j, k, p, u, b
 - c. Initial sound group 3: m, l, h, t, i
 - d. Initial sound group 4: r, f, n, e, s
 - e. Initial sound group 5: q, v, w, x, y, z
5. Label objects in your home using sticky notes. (sticky notes in kit)
6. Go to Transparent Classroom and find students from your child's classroom. Write down their names, addresses, and phone numbers, if provided. Make a telephone book or write a letter to a friend. Show child how to address, stamp, and mail a letter.
7. Call someone from your classroom and have a conversation with her/him.
8. Find and record 3-letter words from your home or from books with short vowel sounds in the middle (C-V-C words) example: cat, pig, dog, rug, cup,
9. Find and record basic sight words from books (using a magnifying glass from kit)
10. News of the Day (sheet) (East Room)
11. Journals (draw a picture, then write a descriptive sentence or two)
12. Write a short story (sheet)
13. Make lists (sheet): you can generate your own headings (such as things you love about winter, favorite foods, favorite animals, favorite colors)
14. Read a book together and talk about the characters' feelings.
15. Read a book together while stopping to make predictions of what will happen next. Talk about why that might happen and how the characters would feel if that happened.
16. READ EVERY DAY – Keep a Book Log of the books you read and your child reads to you! (Log in packet)

Science:

1. Find living and non/living things in your home. Draw pictures of them. (sheet)
2. Sink and float activity. Test things around your house that can sink and float. Make predictions first. Then they can place objects on sheet, draw pictures of objects, or record names of objects. (sheet)
3. Use color wheel to find objects that match that color (sheet)
4. Baking soda and vinegar experiment (sheet)
5. Eat A Rainbow (use a magnifying glass from the kit to find objects on the rainbow sheet that match the color of food)
6. Healthy Habits (sheet) Draw and label food items on the correct side. Talk about how food helps us.
7. Go on a nature walk and draw/label what you see on paper.

Social Studies:

1. Color USA map with names on it. Color three states per day. Find information about those states.
2. Use blank calendars and make the calendar for this month and next month.

Other:

1. Sing one song a day.
2. Listen to classical music.
3. Have your own box day! Save your boxes from all your deliveries and have your child make something using those boxes. Find things in your house that they can add to their creation: buttons, ribbons, stickers, etc.

Daily Recording Sheet

Day	Activity

Daily Recording Sheet

Day	Activity

Daily Reading Log

Day	Reading Log

Daily Recording Sheet

Day	Reading Log