

Home & School Connection Newsletter



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Home & School CONNECTION[®]

Working Together for School Success

May 2019 Fairbanks North Star Borough School District

SHORT NOTES

Being neighborly

Show your child how neighbors can depend on each other. If a package is delivered on a rainy day and the family isn't home, she could write a note saying she's holding it for them. Or if someone leaves headlights on, knock on their door together to let the person know.

Everyday research

Sharpen your youngster's research skills by challenging him to use them for practical purposes. Say he wants a pet or wonders why he needs to go to bed on time. Ask him to look into what being a pet owner would require or how sleep affects kids.

Growing up

As your child approaches puberty, she might compare herself to others. Explain that everyone develops at their own pace. The tallest person in her class right now may not be tallest in a few months. Good hygiene can boost confidence, so discuss routines like showering and using deodorant.

Worth noting

"It's not what you look at that matters. It's what you see." Henry David Thoreau

JUST FOR FUN

Q: Why do bees hum?

A: Because they forget the words!

Summer learning traditions

Your child has spent the entire school year learning new things. Help him hang onto that knowledge, and learn even more, by starting summer traditions like these.

STEM Olympics

Boost your youngster's STEM skills with a series of household engineering competitions. For the first contest, each person could build a catapult with craft sticks and rubber bands. See whose catapult can launch a ball the farthest. Next, maybe family members will compete to engineer a boat that carries the most pennies without sinking.

Family celebrations

Have your child use math to plan special events, such as an Independence Day cookout. Give him a budget, and let him look through grocery and dollar store flyers for the best prices on ingredients and supplies. He should list items and prices, and add up the total. Next, perhaps he'll host a National Ice Cream Day party.

on July 21 or a back-to-school celebration the last weekend of summer break.

Reading pals

For a fun way to stay in touch—and practice reading—help your youngster find a relative to be his reading pal. Maybe he and his grandfather will take turns reading chapters of a novel via video chat. Or record a video of your youngster reading a book to send to a younger cousin. The little one can do the same to show her big cousin how she's learning to read.

Beyond please and thank you

Whether your child is at home, in public, or at someone else's home, using good manners shows respect for others. Consider these tips.

Acknowledge visitors.

Explain how to welcome guests. If your youngster is playing a game and people visit, she should stop and chat.

Share public spaces.

When you use an escalator, you might say to your child, "We're standing on the right side. The left side is for walking." Or while waiting for the elevator, you could tell her, "Let's step back so people can get off before we get on."

Answer politely.

"Would you like pretzels or grapes?" When your child is offered options at someone else's home, she may think it's good manners to reply, "Either one." Point out that it's more helpful for the host if she says what she wants. ("I'd like grapes, thank you.")

ACTIVITY CORNER

What's in the newspaper?

A newspaper brings plenty of learning opportunities to your youngster's doorstep. Take advantage of the paper with these activities.

Alphabet grab bag

Musical experiences

Q: My daughter loves music class in school. She said she'll miss it this summer. Any ideas for "musical class" at home?

If you are having trouble viewing the document, you may [download the document.](#) (/fs/resource-manager/view/ad584c44-3a97-4550-ad7c-c98248c47fb6).

Previous Newsletters

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[February 2019 \(/fs/resource-manager/view/e986e724-2954-4b68-a0b3-fa052e893c7b\)](/fs/resource-manager/view/e986e724-2954-4b68-a0b3-fa052e893c7b)

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[November 2018 \(/fs/resource-manager/view/fd08dc62-8311-40f7-bc32-c02c4f375da2\)](/fs/resource-manager/view/fd08dc62-8311-40f7-bc32-c02c4f375da2)

[A Family Guide to Homework - 2018 \(/fs/resource-manager/view/8fe03302-216d-41b4-ac3b-5e383e365b32\)](/fs/resource-manager/view/8fe03302-216d-41b4-ac3b-5e383e365b32)

[Discipline: What Works Best - 2018 \(/fs/resource-manager/view/8f5569f7-5065-499e-8961-64eba28e9952\)](/fs/resource-manager/view/8f5569f7-5065-499e-8961-64eba28e9952)

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[August 2017 - The Road to School Success \(/fs/resource-manager/view/bd7986c9-aad2-4d11-bc37-dad709b2b8d0\)](/fs/resource-manager/view/bd7986c9-aad2-4d11-bc37-dad709b2b8d0)



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