

LIVEN UP WITH LIVE YERS AT HOME

During times like these, we want to unite as a community in innovative ways that we are able to. We hope that we can provide you with ways to engage as a family, keep your kids on their toes, and tap into education while we are out of school.

The goal of this daily email is to provide you with information and tools to deviate from the daily routine at home and provide a little calm and fun in this storm.

We'd like to take this next month to focus on reading and writing each day. We will provide you with materials to encourage your kiddos to participate in these daily educational activities, with the help of your enthusiasm and guidance.

Apart from our daily education, we will also be focusing on something different each day of the week. To get your kids excited... share this schedule with them:

- Move it Monday
- Try it Tuesday
- Wonders of Wednesday
- Thinkers Thursday
- Family Fun Friday
- 'We are all in this together' Weekends

Today, we launch our first day of At-Home Curriculum that we have prepared and are excited to share with you.

Please feel free to shout out any ideas/topics on what you'd like to see in the future and we can see what we can do!

Reading

Daily Supplies Needed:

- Printer to print the BINGO sheet on next page (OR you can have them cross it off electronically or make their own BINGO sheet by copying the one with paper and markers)
- A book (according to the bingo slot your child chooses that day)
- Marker (for you to assist signing off on the box that your child completed)
- Quiet place is preferred
- May need additional supplies according to the bingo slot your child chooses (for example: stuffed animal, snack, family member, etc)

Instructions:

- The idea of Reading BINGO can help kids feel like they want to read by placing a goal in front of them. It can also help encourage him/her to read different genres.
- Come up with a reward system for your child. (For example: by completing 5 tasks and getting a BINGO, a prize/reward can be picked)
 - Examples of rewards: screen time, a treat/snack, picking out a prize at the store next time
- Consistency is key. During no school days and Summer Day Camp, we include 30 minutes of literacy in our schedule after lunch time daily. Come up with a good time in your day that this reading time can happen. Let your kids have a voice in what time and how long. We recommend 30 minutes a day.
- Help guide your child to get into the right frame of mind to begin reading.
- If your child wants to complete more than one bingo box a day, all of the power to them.
- Let me know if you need additional BINGO sheets when one is completed.
- You may need to sit with your child during this reading time to help with pronunciation and concentration.

Supportive Resources:

The Waukee Public Library is providing many online resources that you and your family can utilize to access books.

<https://www.waukeepubliclibrary.org/online-library>


Great websites/files talking about how parents can be involved with kids' reading.

<https://www.thethinkerbuilder.com/2015/08/show-parents-how-to-read-with-their.html>

https://convertkit.s3.amazonaws.com/assets/documents/38826/2144164/parent_guide.pdf

Let's Read

.....bingo.....

in my room	a book about science	under a tree	to my family	a scary book
a mystery book	a poem	after dinner	in a fort	on a Tuesday
a chapter book	my favorite book		while eating a snack	on the couch
under a tree	on a Thursday	a book about animals	to a stuffed animal	a book about sports
in my pajamas	to a friend	a non-fiction book	on a Monday	with a flashlight

Supportive Reading Discussion Questions:

Here are 25 open-ended questions to get kids talking about books at the dinner table, in casual conversation, and anywhere else you want to chat about reading.

1. What do you think about the cover for this book?
2. Why do you think this book has this title?
3. What is the setting of this book?
4. If you wanted to convince someone to read this book without giving away the ending, what would you say?
5. What is one thing you learned from reading this book?
6. How did you feel about the main character?
7. How did the main character solve his/her problem?
8. If you could be friends with any character from this book, who would you choose, and why?
9. How did you picture the main character?
10. Which of the characters in this book is most like you? Explain.
11. Which of the characters in this book is least like you? Explain.
12. Did the kids in this book seem realistic to you? Why or why not?
13. What was the most exciting part of the story?
14. What was the most surprising thing about this book?
15. What do you think the author is trying to tell the reader in this story?
16. What is one question you would want to ask the author?
17. Did this book remind you of any others you have read? Which ones? Why?
18. How did this book make you feel?
19. What is one thing you really liked about this book?
20. What is one thing you really disliked about this book?
21. What did you think of the way this book ended?
22. If you had written this story, what would you have done differently?
23. If you had to recommend this book to someone you know, who would you choose, and why?
24. What are some interesting words you saw in this book?
25. Was there anything in this book you would like to learn more about? Why?

Writing

Supplies Needed:

- Printer if you wish (can use paper instead of if needing additional writing space)
- Paper (lined if possible)
- Pencil and eraser
- Coloring supplies can be helpful AFTER they've completed their writing to encourage them to draw about what they wrote.
- Quiet space is preferred

Instructions:

- Writing prompts are great creativity and imagination starters for kids, giving them a framework and starting point to write something interesting, funny or help them practice formulating a point of view.
- Help guide your child to get into the right frame of mind to begin writing time. They are only a page, so it shouldn't be too intimidating for kids.
- Consistency is key. Come up with a good time in your day that this writing time can happen. Let your kids have a voice in what time and how long. Maybe you cap their time at 20 minutes and they are able to continue where they left off on the next day, or maybe you expect your child to write 2 paragraphs.
- Show your child the writing prompt and have them write it on the top of their paper (or print it off on the computer). (You may assist with this- it may help with the spelling of some key words for younger students)
- You may need to sit with your child during this writing time to help with spelling and concentration.

Supportive Resources:

You can supplement a writing prompt with writing in response to their reading for the day. The 25 probing questions are below in the link, just as pasted above with the reading curriculum.

<http://www.libraryadventure.com/25-questions-to-spark-book-discussions-with-young-readers/>

The website has helpful tips on providing beneficial assistance and support with spelling while your kids are writing.

<https://www.fortheteachers.org/friday-five-ways-parents-can-help-with-spelling/>

This website has great ideas on how to help older children review and edit their writing.

<https://writeshop.com/why-self-editing-is-hard-make-it-easier/>

Today's writing prompt on next page:

If I could throw a big party, here's
what it would be like:





WONDERS OF WEDNESDAY

(This activity should take about 20-30 minutes with parental interaction)

Supplies Needed:

- Paper
- Pencil and eraser
- Coloring materials
- Printer to print out the activities or need a source for them to see online

Instruction:

- Talk about things that your kids like to draw
- Talk with them about what they have tried drawing and feel successful at
- If you get a good gauge that they aren't too excited about this draw, maybe do it with them or before them. I have found that once students see me doing something, they get the urge to try it themselves
- Utilize the supportive resources for additional drawing exercises instead if you see fit
- You can talk through the steps with them or let them work independently if they desire
- This activity is designed to promote creativity and achievement. If you both are drawing side by side, they will be very different drawings and that is a GOOD thing! We want kids to feel like they've achieved something just by completing it and feeling good about their work
- Once done with the activities, it can be free draw time - allowing your child to feel like they have a voice and choice

Supporting Resources:

Here are very simple drawing exercises that you could print or kids could duplicate on paper to expand on.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B7HU0DcVrlesQUNGRVpzcnIBOVk/edit?usp=sharing>

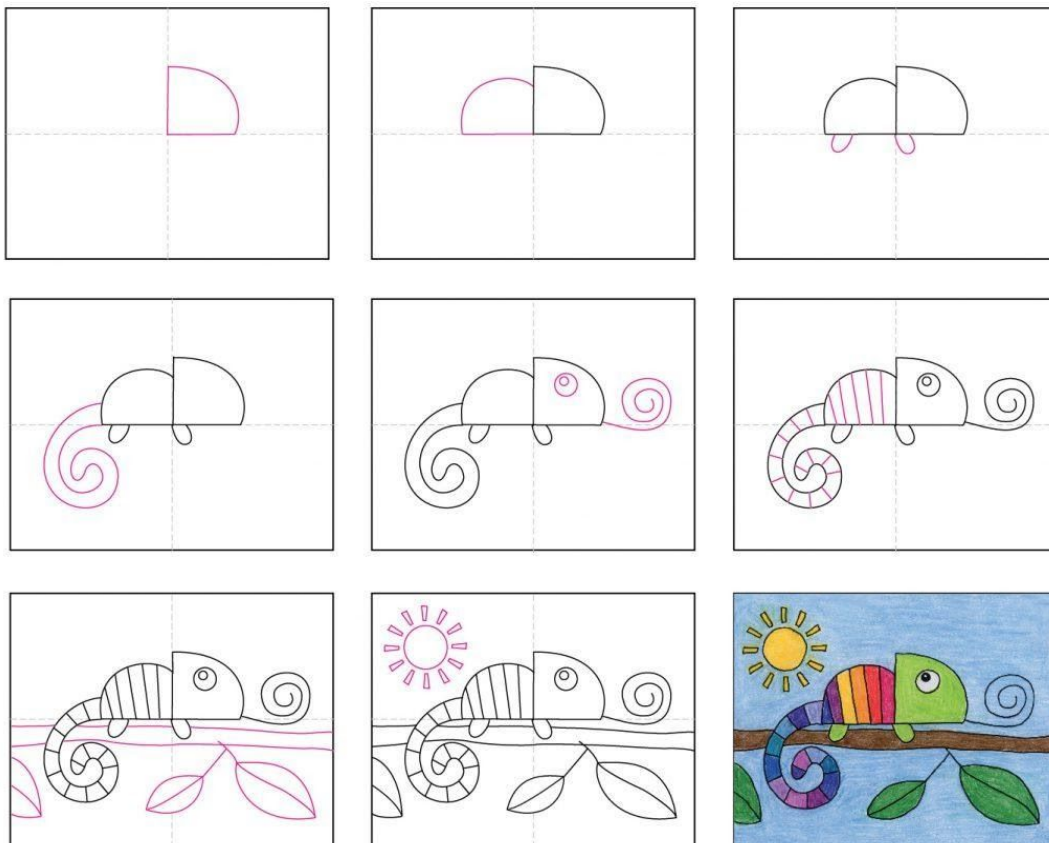
Here is another website full of How-to-Draw doodles and activities. This could keep kids who love drawing and coloring entertained for hours.

<https://simplelifeofalady.com/simple-doodles/>

How to draw prompts below:

How to Draw a Chameleon

How do you draw a chameleon with all his intricate parts and rainbow coloring? Well, if you are just starting out, then this simple step by step version might work best.



How to Draw a Fish Bowl

When you learn how to draw a fish bowl, you're naturally placing a fish in its environment. It's part of the progression of drawing.

