KIDS & FAMILIES CONNECTION – April 3, 2020

What kind of memories have you been making with your family during these strange days? One of my favorite memories growing up was our picnic UNDER the dining room table. Why don’t you try it! Move away the chairs, put down a picnic tablecloth under the table, and use paper plates to serve sandwiches, chips, carrots, lemonade, and cookies. Pretend it’s raining and you had to eat under the table. Let’s use this forced isolation time to create memories with our kids. Why not?

Luke 2:52 says that Jesus grew in wisdom, stature, and in favor with God and men. This verse encompasses growth areas for our kids (and ourselves) as well. You may be inundated with resources or you may be looking for good resources for working with your kids. I’ve included numerous ideas for growing your kids in all of these areas (spiritual, physical, academic, and social) which you can find in the attachment to this email or at this Google Docs link: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1VtDuZqieaip9hQkEIzfl80Np5pOYNGJ7MPHcRsfi87w/edit?usp=sharing>.

If you are in need of physical resources for working with your kids at home, let me know. We have Bibles, puzzles, Play-Doh, construction paper, yarn, and more. In the church library we have books and DVDs that I can make available to your family. I have 20+ boxes of books in my garage that are at all reading levels (Preschool thru 6th grade) along with other teaching resources which I am making available to families. Please let me know of any needs.

Please remember that kids thrive and are more secure when there is routine in their lives. Here is a possible schedule that you can adapt to your child(ren) and situation.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Before 9:00 | Wake up | Eat breakfast, make your bed, get dressed, brush teeth & hair |
| 9:00 | Morning fresh air | Family walk with dog or work out exercise |
| 9:30 | Spiritual time | Connecting with Jesus individually in age-appropriate way |
| 10:00 | Academic time | NO ELECTRONICS – Soduku, flash cards, study guide, journal, assignments from school teachers |
| 11:00 | Creative time | Legos, magnetiles, drawing, crafting, Play-Doh, play music, cook, bake, etc. |
| 12:00 | Lunch |  |
| 12:30 | Chore time | Household chores that are age appropriate |
| 1:00 | Quiet time | Alone time for reading, puzzles, napping |
| 2:30 | Academic time | ELECTRONICS OK – ipad games, educational shows, virtual field trips, assignments from school teachers |
| 4:00 | Afternoon fresh air | Bikes, walks, play outside in the yard |
| 5:00 | Family dinner | Talk about highs and lows of each day |
| 6:00 | Family time | Board games, singing, TV time |
| 7:30 | Prep for bedtime | Baths/showers, family devotions, read alouds |
| 8:00 | Bedtime | All kids |
| 9:00 | Bedtime | All kids who follow the daily routine, obey parents, and treat the family respectfully (no fighting) |

**SPIRITUAL GROWTH**

Experience Jesus’ final days in Jerusalem with a FREE virtual tour of the Passion Week: [www.passionweektour.com](https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.passionweektour.com%2F%3Ffbclid%3DIwAR2wKr-MzFLxGvrFvhbB-qB_YBfeG_6R7514vYXjZ1E2yLfBgpxxi46MMvM&h=AT1D9_fEVagHJg8jERn7XyU8mP9qs110Wvtqj1f4WsSDR4OQ9AhkhECavUIc4XxNBboihYvoRqZLeavrVVVIw0Qz4cItIDOEHaDKfjLx8dMyySqILcRdjbxUnjILeqhuNPmV&__tn__=-UK*F)

Activities and coloring pages from The Beginners Bible: <http://www.thebeginnersbible.com/>

Snack and Storytime with Miss Mel and Mr Lou on Facebook and Instagram. Live at 4:00 pm CST on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. Replayed on YouTube. <https://www.facebook.com/meljmacdonald>

Free children’s entertainment and family Bible study resources on RightNow Media. Contact the church office for an “invite” to this great resource: <https://www.rightnowmedia.org/>

Compassion Explorer magazine has online activities, stories, devotionals, recipes, and more: <https://www.compassion.com/for-sponsors/resources/get-explorer-magazine.htm?fbclid=IwAR1NHvRCGX6rOoMVvucpALYjETQlbAvDnhOlM2-HkWnonQipP7KQzVHZJAE>

**PHYSICAL GROWTH**

Learning physical tasks around the house for themselves and the whole family – tying shoes, sweeping or vacuuming the floor, washing dishes, working in the garden, doing laundry, etc.

Take a walk through the neighborhood and do a scavenger hunt along the way. Here are 75 indoor and outdoor hunts: <https://www.myjoyfilledlife.com/free-printable-scavenger-hunts/>

Family work-out: [https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=dhCM0C6GnrY&feature=share](https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=https%3A%2F%2Fm.youtube.com%2Fwatch%3Fv%3DdhCM0C6GnrY%26feature%3Dshare%26fbclid%3DIwAR0TF0pKRMDNWhU1GRXeu_rxE4TT2kyjBMNckVmn1qsG0BcGVF_vDtfiKAU&h=AT3YaCRBUId-mzkh98y2NesCrXiNzyZLgnOg7BndJzFBcq3fEkSGuvfMVDJm30ukX2XroYUO0fOLqFaynbB1KkKNrRKRw6PBZvConO4U9Fq8KnXeXCMMrBt40vBUG0tL2n_0&__tn__=-UK-R&c%5b0%5d=AT1CrySzqYufn-9cAzLktPmtB7vYNQkoO_GJuEAq6lY5FRG-JcSv8J1f8Ne1ehJaSWL0bzxsbfaGwjwLEBx2W8IVCvZ3SPbLI1N42iNJG0zwWT_nWRk5EoRgN8zxZSeJ5PFXh4n93XVIcTQzL3Y4R2zIR_1PWm0QdURFkpSr4K_ftP_b0pa3hhJvBuE2)

Great activity ideas: <https://www.facebook.com/lucia.valenciahuerta/videos/3256631937699884>

In case you didn’t know, meals are available at Inman Elementary School in Red Oak:

* Pick them up while driving thru at Inman Elementary.
* Available for pick up on Mondays and Thursdays from 7:30 am to 8:30 am and 4:30 pm to 5:30 pm.
* Monday’s pickup includes breakfast, lunch and 2 snacks per day for Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.
* Thursday’s pickup includes breakfast, lunch and 2 snacks per day for Thursday and Friday.
* Thursday’s pickup includes weekend meals for children in the backpack program.

**ACADEMIC GROWTH**

Red Oak’s Inman Elementary School has created Facebook pages at each grade level in the elementary to provide learning opportunities during the closure. Each grade level team of teachers will be working together to provide resources in literacy, math and beyond. Pages will be named as follows: Red Oak Elem\_Learning Opportunities\_Grade (grade will be listed). These activities in no way are required and meant to support families who may want to use them. Please email your child’s teacher with questions.

6th Grade:

**<https://www.facebook.com/RedOakELEMLearningOpportunitiesGradeSix/>**

5th Grade

**<https://www.facebook.com/redoakelemlearningopportunitesgrade5/>**

4th Grade

**<https://www.facebook.com/Red-Oak-Elem_Learning-Opportunities_Grade-4-101058624894149>**

3rd Grade

**<https://www.facebook.com/Red-Oak-Elem_Learning-Opportunities_Grade-3-108114267509390/>**

2nd Grade

**<https://www.facebook.com/Red-Oak-Elem_Learning-Opportunities_Grade2-105664617757577>**

1st Grade

**<https://www.facebook.com/Red-Oak-Elem_Learning-Opportunities_Grade-1-103953287930702>**

Kindergarten

**<https://www.facebook.com/RedOakElemKindergarten/>**

Preschool

**<https://www.facebook.com/RedOakPreschool>**

Learning opportunities resource from Green Hills AEA: [https://sites.google.com/ghaea.org/online-learning-opportunities/home](https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=https%3A%2F%2Fsites.google.com%2Fghaea.org%2Fonline-learning-opportunities%2Fhome%3Ffbclid%3DIwAR0qZTZI1BTto0zmKic0u26fUtKsSbBjqojx8DSYQa4M12fU0uAtcBkd6aI&h=AT3tDQqAqmZPGak253fX2GxLExOd93q6kk5x-xuWmFETjDgRIns3ja3gvPJwejgd6jpHoqAz7_cRLd4nTI7BeC04LnYw9PlOef3QcTETOvyBSFr3dGmGBQPJeQ1tBsBT1OOr&__tn__=-UK-R&c%5b0%5d=AT2OF838OJHUQveoJYt2hH8i8EYc_yMD_Hp-rlGw1P0iU-KItwywUknGCR6lpkgfxi3jpABaGyRkrIP4MNxUZ4k-RcT-sjanofVSN_NV79lumV_zjPd715tr7V8FlTPR4VJlUqBQDiK2gpNA4GV7ipyU4JiGi0a1eUJ0Nomc28R9smsnCFfvls3I7Sll)

Resources from Scholastic books/magazines: [https://classroommagazines.scholastic.com/support/learnathome.html](https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=https%3A%2F%2Fclassroommagazines.scholastic.com%2Fsupport%2Flearnathome.html%3Ffbclid%3DIwAR205e2tAmOgY-d5lNVrqEGr_xCi3Mtuj2k_0v08G0hLP8KgRIMJFLdPsto&h=AT2lTfMf8hi1aX6AMJB-8SrCDc-_lSQ2Ur_-unL9S2cICyb4oglzkfjBeu-d6EU8_ClegOCzf_VQqsYqo_CFAtEq5yg3IcCWYo8KG5MN_QJFYZqETxHpIB4-F5wJnYfICu8D&__tn__=-UK-R&c%5b0%5d=AT0bRDnYQbnuKS4rtflH2UDawAAt8QXbW_1TDpSk0VZ6x8timi9P1V3ONMfq6GjLe2zJzu7duhtR8YwFteidHOyLRU_s9_GXG_v1idTG0L9AeqfD4BrfPeP4yVmmnRXZfiL5h_Jw5unRRX0y12p9aC7VHS_Wdlq4IELMP23gp1PNBzCmEgUgnt9pWX1q)

Read-alouds and activities from authors of children’s books: [https://www.weareteachers.com/virtual-author-activities/#.XnNXIGD9Q4c.twitter](https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.weareteachers.com%2Fvirtual-author-activities%2F%3Ffbclid%3DIwAR0co0vViFGTk60mgaAZp86Zl40l01h7t3rxNhohITUGx2NWpeLrYs6BcQY%23.XnNXIGD9Q4c.twitter&h=AT0nu4Hfu_B8bLJqzPalNqx6ImHLc_1eU1pViib2cTQHpwqa-xPZ5lmPkIjF2ZmlcROtJwbI9T-LvJnP2z5lqUnyluNv76UVX7f42UgG3_bEibz1hCPXnl7NKBFQ85vP9emL&__tn__=-UK-R&c%5b0%5d=AT2kCKAfYmKJvhAcPjVO7J_5CiVY0g6ER3szDXEGPBoJSZds0dbwRl99Ze1ljtD-Hl4SXip0iFA54D5WcKepXaoBR1qyID3dBNpzVQQYGbcgoOISsTQUZdbN4FOhJjl-0IhqtsUHI_3O6dRsjMC-eYwYR2PtNz191GSkCA3KlhIL_mTUb9oC7fVEfz9Q)

Virtual Field Trips: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1SvIdgTx9djKO6SjyvPDsoGlkgE3iExmi3qh2KRRku_w/preview?fbclid=IwAR0WXfhUhDs93Rf9TIk9zRRgohsLGMH2hUwcz7eFhMViXDpB22F2tOMG1TA>

Free audible books for all ages: <https://stories.audible.com/start-listen?fbclid=IwAR2PkAXaB0jaHYQgY8kNfcOzYC4syk6lDhfi3LIK9uwNcZxmSFm6-3xeTNw>

Streaming library of kid-safe, read-aloud, animated storybooks – free for 1 month: <https://www.vooks.com/parents?fbclid=IwAR07QHfYz8lY2xT3ewv8F65yw6ve8WluGJEQJkBhmYjy_cPzBKibJ6bq4mA>

Quiet-time ideas for all ages: <https://www.howweelearn.com/quiet-time-ideas-kids/?fbclid=IwAR0Sp3StL5FvnZIj0mhZfZ1l7ie_3b92tvtLfJKfuIxBevQPszw71mxuRm8>

PBS Learning Activities: <https://net.pbslearningmedia.org/collection/emergency-closings-collection/>

Making the most out of screen time with conversation starters: <https://www.pbs.org/parents/thrive/making-the-most-out-of-screen-time-conversation-starters?utm_source=WEDU+PBS&utm_campaign=033437a9f9-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_03_30_02_15&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_5846a83b8d-033437a9f9-297329226&mc_cid=033437a9f9&mc_eid=30bac60e6f>

**SOCIAL GROWTH and ENTERTAINMENT**

Meal kids can learn to make: <https://www.buzzfeed.com/hannahloewentheil/beginner-friendly-recipes-kids-can-help-cook?fbclid=IwAR1NHvRCGX6rOoMVvucpALYjETQlbAvDnhOlM2-HkWnonQipP7KQzVHZJAE>

Family Movies on PureFlix: <https://www.pureflix.com/>

50 great craft activities that will make the kids forget about video games: <https://www.goodhousekeeping.com/home/craft-ideas/how-to/g1389/diy-kids-activities/>