

**Gackle-Streeter
School District
December 2021
Newsletter**

COVID-19 Vaccinations
December 2 @ Gackle School
Link to register for an appointment:
<https://bit.ly/GackleSchool>

Greetings from the Superintendent's Desk

It is hard to believe that we are already moving towards the Holiday Vacation for the 2020-2021 school year! Things have gone quite smooth this first semester. This takes place because of the great students and staff we have here at Gackle-Streeter. I am very pleased with the energy and enthusiasm of all the staff throughout this first semester. The Gackle-Streeter School is filled with great children and wonderful adults who work with them. I hope the second semester goes as well.

Switching gears, the winter sports seasons are upon us. Every new season brings enthusiasm and optimism. A lot of work from the athletes, coaches, and officials goes into each season. Gackle-Streeter has athletes participating in Jh boys basketball, varsity girls and boys basketball and wrestling. Please come out and support our student athletes!

The teachers and administration recently reviewed the procedures to follow in the event of an active shooter situation at the school. Although we hope that this training is never needed it is important that the staff here at the school remains mindful of the plan put in place to keep our faculty and students safe. On a similar note, it is time for the Logan County Multi-Jurisdictional Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan to be reviewed and updated. The city of Gackle has several representatives on this committee and I have been put of the LEPC. It is reassuring to know that our county and our town are well prepared to deal with potential disasters and that Gackle-Streeter School has a voice in the planning process.

It seems the battle with COVID-19 continues and cooler weather lends well to the spread of the virus. The Gackle-Streeter school district continues mitigation efforts to stop the spread of the virus. Central Valley Health will be in town providing initial vaccinations, as well as booster shots, on Dec. 2nd. They will be at the Care Center first thing in the morning and at the school closer to noon. If you are interested in receiving the vaccine or having your child vaccinated, please refer to the link provided in this publication to set up an appointment.

I hope that the holiday season is a happy and joyful time for everybody in the Gackle-Streeter District!

Sincerely,

Supt. Mark Berg



**Our Lost & Found is
filling up fast!**

**Please check the box in the
entryway for your student's
Missing or Lost items.**

“Why Can’t I Skip my Reading Tonight?”

Students who read 15-20 minutes outside of school each day are able to increase their reading proficiency. A frequently cited article helps break down the difference between students who make time to read outside of school and those who don't:

Student A reads 20 minutes five nights of every week;
Student B reads only 4 minutes a night...or not at all!

Step 1: Multiply minutes a night x 5 times each week:
Student A reads 20 min. x 5 times a week = 100 mins/week;
Student B reads 4 minutes x 5 times a week = 20 mins/week.

Step 2: Multiply minutes a week x 4 weeks each month:
Student A reads 400 minutes a month;
Student B reads 80 minutes a month.

Step 3: Multiply minutes a month x 9 months/school year:
Student A reads 3600 min. in a school year;
Student B reads 720 min. in a school year.

Student “A” practices reading the equivalent of ten whole school days a year. Student “B” gets the equivalent of only two school days of reading practice a year. Sometimes the numbers help put the effort into perspective.



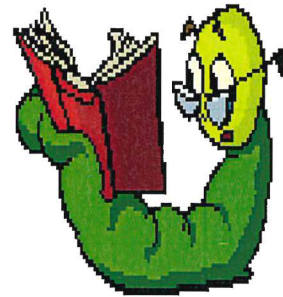
Student Absences Reminder

Regular attendance is essential if a student is to be successful in school and the world of work. Parental cooperation in this matter is essential. Parents are asked to notify the school office at 485-3692 of an absence in advance or call in by 9:00 AM the day of their illness. In addition, if the student will be experiencing a long-term illness, students or parents should contact the teacher directly to secure assignments. Teachers will also provide assignments and materials when an absence is planned.

Learning Home Zone

Top 10 ways to support learning conditions at home:

1. Have **high expectations** for your child
2. **Encourage** your child to go to college
3. **Read** to your child
4. Take your child to the **library**
5. **Help** your child **with his** or her **homework**
6. **Provide resources** to help you child do *his* or her schoolwork
7. **Monitor** the time spent doing **homework**
8. Take your child to **cultural events**
9. **Monitor** the extent to which your child watches **television**
10. **Monitor** your child when he or she comes home from school and **what they do after school**



**The beautiful thing about learning is that no one can take it away from you.
B.B. King**

"COFFEE WITH THE KIDS!"



Bring your favorite mug and we will fill it up with coffee! Sit and listen to a very talented reader that will share a few books with you!

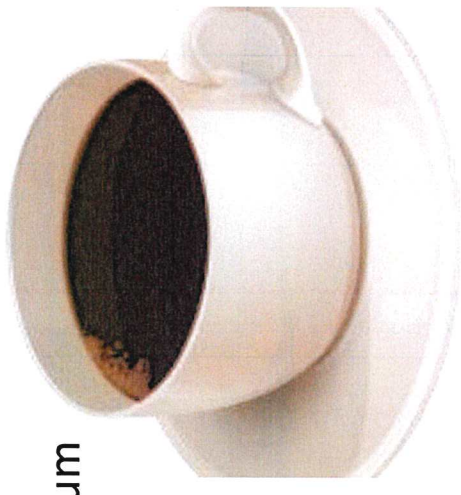
Please tell your friends, call grandma or grandpa, or anyone else you can think of! We want every kid to have a reading buddy!

Where: Gackle Streater Public School Gymnasium

When: December 10, 2021

Time: 9:00-9:30 (please be here before 9:00)

This will be a monthly event, so look out for upcoming posters!



Thank you, and we hope to see you there! GSPS student council.

December 2021

PRINCIPAL'S NOTE

FROM THE DESK OF MRS. BUCKEYE



SOMETIMES MIRACLES ARE JUST GOOD PEOPLE WITH KIND HEARTS.

The virtue of KINDNESS is free, it's something that each one of us are capable of being every single day of our lives. "No matter how rich, how talented, or truly how great you think you are, the way you treat other people ultimately tells all." When I recently asked students in our school what it means to be kind, here are some of the responses I received: People who are kind won't make fun of you, they include you in games and activities, they want you to have fun too, they help others without being asked or expect anything in return, they do good things for others, even if they are not your best friend they will still be kind to you, and they don't say mean things about other people. Not only do we educate the students in our building we learn from them too. We truly have amazing kids, filled with good hearts, strong virtues, and morals that will be the change in our world. As Albert Einstein stated, "Education is not learning of facts, rather it's the training of the mind to THINK." Kindness is free to give but priceless to receive.

WHAT'S COMING UP

MUSIC CONCERTS

December 6th @ 7:00 High School Music Concert

December 14th @ 6:30 Elementary Music Concert

COFFEE W/ KIDS

December 10th at 9:00-9:30

CHRISTMAS PARTIES

Students will have holiday parties in their classrooms on the afternoon of December 22nd

NO SCHOOL

December 23rd- January 2nd

CONGRATS STUDENT COUNCIL

The GSPS Student Council and the community came together once again and did a fantastic job of putting on our first ever "Coffee with The Kids" event. We had over 30 community members join us for a morning of coffee and reading with elementary students in our awesome gymnasium. Thanks to all who came and made this event so enjoyable. We hope to see you at our next one on December 10th from 9:00-9:30. Anyone willing to listen to a child read is welcome.

CONGRATS to our Drama Department

Ms. Mairs took 14 students to Wishek to compete in the One Act Play Competition where they came home with a 4th place finish. Jada was named as a Superior Actor and Anizye was named as an Honorable Mention Superior Actor. Congrats to this whole crew for all the hard work and dedication. You made us all very proud.

Red Ribbon Week

Students of GSPS participated in RED RIBBON WEEK. Red Ribbon Week is a week set aside to recognize the importance of choosing to be DRUG FREE. Shout out to Stephanie Sealey our kindergarten teacher for coming up with all the fun activities and fun slogans for our DRESS UP week. Thanks for the fun week, Mrs. Sealy!

Weather is Changing

- With the weather changing, please be sure your child is coming to school with warm clothing-hats, gloves, boots, snow pants, and a warm coat. Elementary kids will be going out for morning recess before school and noon recess after lunch. Teachers will be having the kids take everything home on the weekends to get washed.
- DOORS TO THE SCHOOL WILL **NOT** BE UNLOCKED UNTIL 8:10- Please **plan accordingly** when sending your kids to school. With the weather getting cold, we have kids arriving at 7:55 and standing outside the doors. For the safety of our students and lack of supervision before 8:10 we ask that the kids arrive after 8:10.
- **REMINDER PARENTS**....if your child is not going to be in school please contact the office. With the roads getting icy and snow compacted your child's safety is our top priority.

MONTHLY SHOUT OUTS

The following students have been recognized this month for going out of their way to being **EXTRA AMAZING**. Thanks students and keep up the great work. ***Jada, Hunter, Brooke, Charlee, Abby, Dauson, Lorelie, Karly, elementary teachers, Brenden, the cooks, Clay, student council members, Luke, Richie, all elementary students, and the 6th grade girls.***

SHOUT OUTS

SHOUT OUTS

Jada

Hunter

Brooke

Charlee

Abby

Dauson

Lorelie

Karly

Elementary Teachers

Brenden

Cooks

Clay

Student Council

Luke

Richie

Elementary Students

6th Grade Girls



Shout Out to Our Local American Legion Auxiliary of Gackle

It is with great honor that I write this article recognizing the amazing community members we have in the Gackle-Streeter school district. Our school takes great pride in the educational future of our students, but so do our local organizations. This organization has graciously donated money which is applied towards the monthly scholastic book order placing a personal book into the hands of each of our students.

Scholastic book club magazines have been going home for years. So many times, kids are unable to order books because of limited funds. This organization has donated \$1.50 per month for each elementary student in our building to receive a book. This has allowed teachers to purchase books and send those home with the kids to share, read with their family, and keep as their own.

Students will be showcasing their reading skills once a month at "Coffee with The Kids" here at the school. We welcome family, community, and all those willing to listen to our kids read. What better way to spark a love for reading than building their own personal libraries?

Thanks so much to the American Legion Auxiliary for the generous donation. Your generosity and belief in our kids' education is greatly appreciated by the students, teachers, parents, and administration of Gackle-Streeter Public School.



December News

This Month's Learning & Activities

Reading: Zoo Phonics Letters: Tt, Ii, Nn, Cc
Timothy Tiger /t/t/t/ Innie Inchworm /i,/i/,/i/,
Nigel Night Owl /n,/n,/n/ Catina Cat /c/,/c/,/c/

Math Numbers: 5, 6, 7, 8- counting, adding,
recognizing shapes, and categorizing.

Social Studies/Science: Seasons and Animals,
Hibernation. Holidays and Traditions, Being Polite.

Science Experiment: Make fake snow.

Art: Christmas Trees

Important Dates

Dec. 23-Jan. 2 Holiday Break

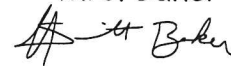
Jan. 3 School Resumes

Notes, Reminders & Tips

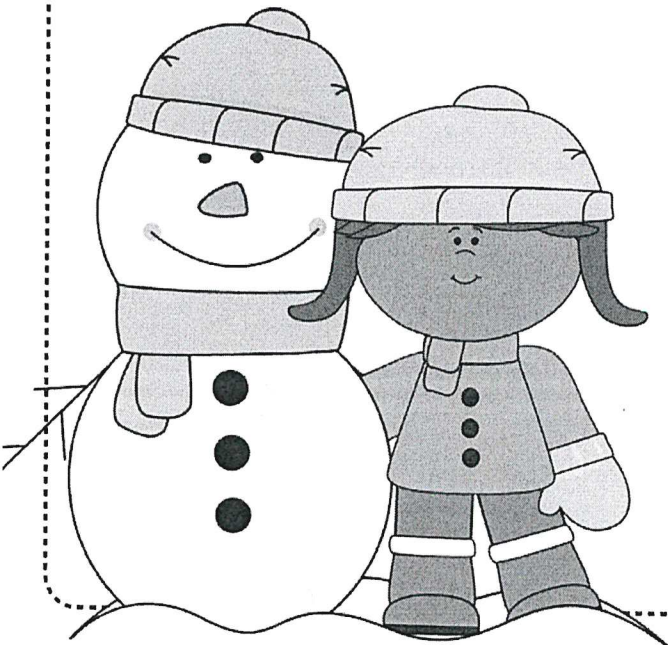
*Please continue to send coats,
hats, gloves, and boots with
your children.

Sight Word Practice
Please practice these sight
words with your child.
a, and, big, can, go, here, I, in,
is, it, me, said, the, to, away,
come, down, little, look, make,
my, not, play, run, see, up,
where, we, you.

Mrs. Baker



summitt.baker@k12.nd.us
701-485-3620



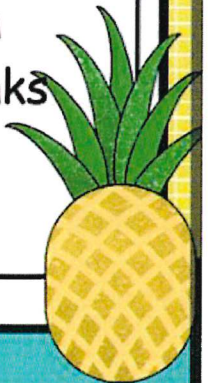
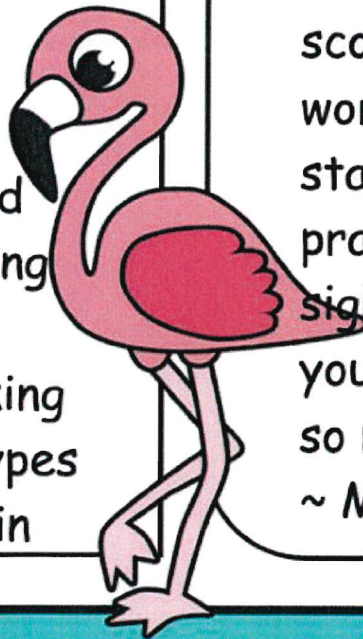


Kindergarten News

November was a month spent learning about shapes and patterns in Math. In science we have been studying animals and their habitats. Social Studies we learned about our communities and helpers in our community. We have been working with syllables, compound words, and beginning sounds in Phonics. We have been talking about different types of transportation in reading class.



Reminder: Our scooping up sight words activity has started! Please be practicing those sight words with your child! Thanks so much!
~ Mrs. Sealey





Turkey
by Bryce

How to cook a turkey

First, I get my turkey from womart. Then, I clean it out. Next I put it in the uvin. Then I set it for 100 degrees. Then I set it for 5 minutes. Last, I go get my family to go outside to eat oure turkey. -Delaney

Firt, we get a turkey from the grosry stor. Then, we get are garlic, selt, and a pan for the turkey. Then, we put it in the ovin. Then, we put temp on 100 degrees. Then, we cook it for 1 hour. Last all of are family gathered up and we ate the turkey. -Sydney

My dad won a turkey. Thene mom cook it. My mom put sesing on it. She cook it in the uvin for ten mines at 100 degrees. I wud eat it at my hows with my famley. -Adigan



**HAPPY
THANKSGIVING!**

Mrs. Sako's Science News

We have been so busy doing science this year! Everyone is learning about something different.

--7th and 8th grade are working with a new website called Mosa Mack. They have been learning all about weather. They've even been helping the Mosa Mack development team improve their website!

--9th grade have learned some of the elements, how to put them together to make compounds and are now seeing how those compounds change during chemical reactions.

--10th grade are just starting on food webs, food chains, photosynthesis and cellular respiration.

--Chemistry students are working in a project based learning curriculum and each unit has a mystery to solve. The latest is a murder mystery with all sorts of clues that need to be tested and weeded out.

--Physics students are sure they are in math class with a science theme. They are learning the math behind projectiles and will soon be putting their skills to the test working with and creating one.

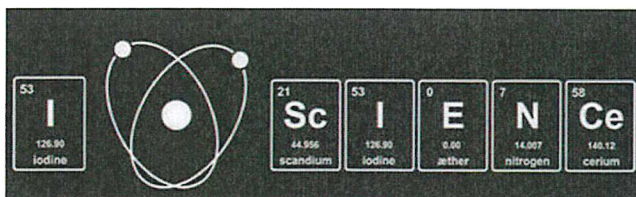
--Astronomy students have been stretching their minds thinking of the vast expanse of space. They have put glow in the dark stars on the science lab ceiling to represent certain constellations and have made a model of the solar system on the walls. They are currently studying the planets in our solar system and critiquing the accuracy of children's planet videos.



Science Olympiad is just around the corner. The event is scheduled to take place March 21-24. The 21-23 will be a remote portion and the 24th will be at VCSU.

There are two divisions—B is grades 6-9 and C is grades 9-12. Practices are held before or after school and start in January 2022.

Currently the remote events are Anatomy & Phys, Codebusters, Crave the Wave, Road Scholar, Remote Sensing, Cell biology, Disease Detectives, Green Generation, Meteorology, Forensics, Rocks and Minerals, Dynamic Planet, Ornithology, Solar System, and Astronomy. In person events will be Experimental Design, Write it do it, Chem Lab, Crime Busters, It's About Time, Bio Process Lab, WiFi Lab, Detector Building, Sounds of Music, Food Science and Environmental Chem.



We've got the "Gossip"!

I am so proud of our actors and actresses for their performance, Gossip, at Regionals. They placed 4th! This year we had many new to the cast, and it was my first time bringing them to Regionals as a director. They performed so well and were provided with great feedback from the judges to take and learn from. I cannot wait to see how this cast grows!

We did have two other exciting events besides placing 4th. Anizye Grode was awarded the Honorable Mention Superior Actor and Jada Reiser was awarded the Superior Actor. Great work ladies!

I am so proud of the whole cast and crew! If you see any of the cast, send them a congratulations for their hard work.

Miss Mairs



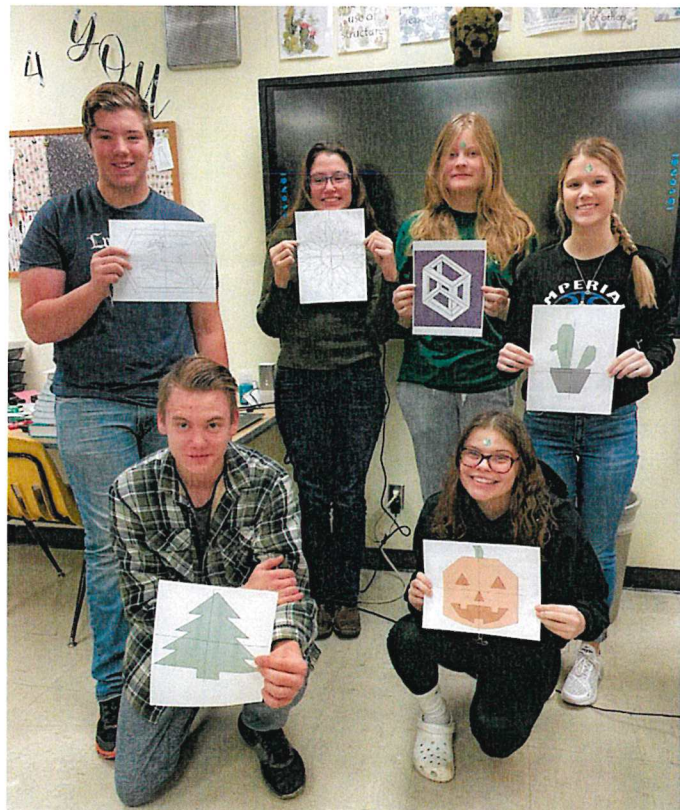


Can you guess a mathematician's favorite dessert?
Math Pi!

We have been working hard throughout this semester learning new material. I love hearing how something is easy compared to last year or how something seemed like it was going to be much harder than it actually was. Math takes practice and patience, but with that you can succeed!

We have even had time to sprinkle in some fun projects! The Algebra 2 class of Juniors just finished their graphing project. They were to pick an image, hand draw it out on a graphing sheet of paper, and then create that same image on an online graphing website. The picture below shows students' work at all different stages.

Miss Mairs



Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells, Jingle all the way.... Here we are in December already and the concerts are a happening! High School concert is December 6th at 7 p.m., and we are asking each family to bring some Christmas goodies to share during the concert. We will once again have the apple cider hot and some hot water waiting for the cocoa mix to enjoy during our Christmas entertainment.

The elementary students will be presenting the Jingle Bell Jukebox for your entertainment on December 14th at 6:30 p.m. We are also asking each family to bring some Christmas goodies to share after the concert. We will also have the apple cider and hot water/cocoa mix ready and waiting. We will also have our annual come see Santa Claus after the concert.

We will be traveling around and performing at some local venues during the holiday season this year. At the moment I am writing this, I know we will be having a group singing up at the Bank in Gackle in the afternoon. The 3/4th grade will be going to the Streeter bank also, the date and time to be determined. I am still waiting to hear on our other possible local performance. When I know all the dates and times and who is going where, I will post them on the app.

We are trying something new for our Gackle-Streeter apparel. For the screen-printed items we are working with Orriginals out of Jamestown this year. If you would like to order a t-shirt, sweatshirt or some of the other options, please check out the website at the following link.

<https://www.orriginals.com/gackle-streeter-apparel/> The design for the screen-printed items will be this:



Embroidered items will have a different design. However, check out some of the new options included in this newsletter. Those will continue to be on paper order forms, also included in this newsletter.

Dates to keep in mind for after Christmas, the first one will be for our 5th and 6th grade band members. The Young Musicians festival is the last Saturday in February. Everyone learns a solo and performs at the festival. Later on, the High School Large group contest is March 15th and High School Solo/Ensemble is April 9th. The last high school contest is State music on May 7th.

Gackle-Streeter Music

Note: All items must be pre-paid to be included in the order

Instructions: write in the number of items, size you would like, and if you would like your name embroidered.

Total your order in the right column.

Items by Jackie Kreft

If you would like a name added, please add \$5.00

Embroidered items:	Price	No.	Size	Total \$	Name &/or color &/or design
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BG100 Port Authority Xcape Computer Backpack	\$38.00				
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BG217 Port Authority Circuit Backpack	\$28.00				
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ST851 1/2-zip pullover					
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available in true royal/Charcoal Grey

Sport-Tek® Sport-Wick® Stretch Colorblock					
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or Orange/Charcoal Grey

Adult sizes: XS-XL	\$41.00				
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2XL	\$43.00				
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3XL	\$44.00				
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4XL	\$45.00				
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ST854/LST854 Stretch 1/2 zip pullover					
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available in Black/Charcoal Grey Heather

<i>Please specify Men's or Ladies</i>					
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or True Royal/Royal Heather

Adult sizes: XS-XL	\$41.00				
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2XL	\$43.00				
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3XL	\$44.00				
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4XL	\$45.00				
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LST30 (ladies) JST30 Mens					
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available in Black electric or Grey/black electric

Sport-tek Posi Charge Soft Shell Jacket					
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Adult XS-XL	\$46.00				
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2XL	\$48.00				
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3XL	\$49.00				
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4XL	\$50.00				
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LNEA141 (Ladies) NEA141 (Mens)					
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available in Black, Black Heather or Shadow Grey Heather

New Era Thermal Full-zip Hoodie					
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XS-XL	\$39.00				
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2XL	\$41.00				
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3XL	\$42.00				
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4XL	\$43.00				
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<u>L318 (Ladies)/J318 (Mens)</u>	<u>available in black/Battleship Grey</u>			
<u>Port Authority Core colorblock</u>				
<u>soft shell Jacket</u>				
Adult XSm-XL	\$46.00			
2XL	\$48.00			
3XL	\$49.00			
4XL	\$50.00			
<u>JST40 (Mens) or LST40 (Ladies)</u>	<u>available in true royal heather/black</u>			
<u>Sport-Tek® Heather Colorblock Raglan</u>				<u>or black heather/black</u>
<u>Hooded Wind Jacket</u>				
<u>Specify Mens or ladies</u>				
Adult XS-XL	\$41.00			
2XL	\$43.00			
3XL	\$44.00			
4XL	\$45.00			
<u>LST980 (Ladies) ST980 (Mens)</u>	<u>available in Deep black or Graphite</u>			
<u>Sport-tek Hooded Soft Shell Jacket</u>				
Adult XS-XL	\$46.00			
2XL	\$48.00			
3XL	\$49.00			
4XL	\$50.00			
<u>Name:</u>			Total:	
<u>Phone #:</u>				
<u>Orders Due December 6th</u>				



ST851

6.8-ounce, 90/10 poly/spandex jersey
100% polyester closed-hole mesh insets
Cadet collar
Tag-free label
Dyed-to-match Sport-Tek® logo neck taping
Contrast color reverse coil zipper
Open cuffs and hem



JST30

100% polyester knit shell with PosiCharge technology bonded to a water-resistant laminated film insert and a 100% polyester grid fleece lining
Zip-through cadet collar
Front zippered pockets
Comfort fit binding at cuffs
1000MM fabric waterproof rating



LST30



LST854

6.8-ounce, 90/10 poly/spandex jersey
Tag-free label
Feminine curved and blocked design details on back LST only
Cadet collar
Princess seams LST only
Open cuffs and hem
Drop tail hem LST only



ST854

Soft-brushed backing
Reflective details on right sleeve and lower back
Reverse coil zipper
Raglan sleeves
Thumbholes to keep hands warm LST only





LST40

JST40

- 100% polyester shell
- 100% polyester woven sleeve lining
- Three-panel hood with drawcord and toggles
- Exposed molded zipper
- Half elastic, half self-fabric cuffs for comfort
- Slight drop tail hem LST only

- 100% polyester mesh body and hood lining
- Tag-free label
- Angled chin guard for additional comfort
- Princess seams with integrated front slash pockets LST only
- Port Pocket™ at left chest for easy embroidery access
- Drawcord hem with toggles



L318

J318

LST980

ST980

- 100% polyester woven shell bonded to a water-resistant film insert and a 100% polyester microfleece lining
- 1000MM fabric waterproof rating
- 1000G/M² fabric breathability rating
- Front zippered pockets

- 100% polyester knit shell with a durable water-repellent coating bonded to a water-resistant film insert and a 100% polyester brushed tricot interior
- 5000MM fabric waterproof rating
- 5000G/M² fabric breathability rating
- Removable three-panel hood with drawcord and toggles
- Raglan sleeves
- Coated reverse coil center front zipper
- Front reverse coil zippered pockets
- Elastic binding at cuffs
- Thumbholes for warmth
- Open drop tail hem



LNEA141

New Era® Ladies Thermal Full-Zip Hoodie
5.5-ounce, 60/40 cotton/polyester
Woven back neck label
Drawcord with New Era debossed metal tips
Slight drop shoulder
Front pouch pockets
Rib knit cuffs and hem
Embroidered New Era flag logo on pocket



NEA141



BG100

600D poly canvas; 200D poly PVC fishnet dobby
Front zippered pocket
Interior laptop pocket in main compartment
Lightly padded shoulder straps
Side mesh pocket
Laptop sleeve dimensions: 12.5"h x 12.75"w; fits most 15" laptops
Dimension: 17.5"h x 12.75"w x 6.25"d; Approx. 1,395 cubic inches



BG217

Has the same specs as BG100. BG100 is has more dedicated space for a computer.

Helping Children Learn[®]

Tips Families Can Use to Help Children Do Better in School

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



December 2021

Improve conversations with your child about the school day

Talking with your child about school every day shows her that you think her education is important. And discussing what she's learning and doing is a great way for you to get a sense of her strengths and areas she might need help with.

But if all you hear when you ask your child how school is going is "fine," try these conversation strategies:

- **Talk about your own day first.** Give your child the kinds of details you'd like to hear from her. For example: "I did a lot of different things today. I had a meeting with my boss in the morning. I took Grandma to her doctor's appointment this afternoon. Afterward, we stopped at the store to pick up some milk and vegetables." Then ask her to tell you about her day.
- **Ask specific, open-ended questions.** "Is your schoolwork too hard, too easy or just right?" "What did you do today in class that made you feel good?" "What was the funniest thing that happened today?"
- **Look over your child's schoolwork.** Did the teacher return a worksheet or drawing? Make several observations about what you see—what you remember liking about the subject, what it reminds you of, etc. Then say, "Tell me about what you learned about this."



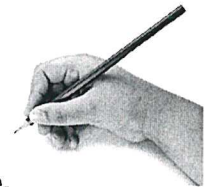
Celebrate accomplishments

He did it! Your child raised his math grade this quarter. Or he finally finished reading a book series. The good feelings that come with reaching a challenging goal are great motivators. To encourage them, help your child celebrate his hard work and accomplishment. Post a picture of him with his report card or book in a place of honor, or serve a victory dinner of his favorite foods.

Strengthen study skills

Study skills are increasingly vital as students reach upper grades. Help your child practice:

- **Taking notes.** When she reads at home, have your child write down key words, facts and main points.
- **Planning study time.** Have her make a to-do list before a test: Review, draw diagrams, solve sample problems, etc. Then help her schedule time for each task.



Highlight character heroes

You are your child's primary role model. But you don't have to be the only one! Draw on other people to provide examples of positive traits and actions. Point to:

- **Relatives, friends** or celebrities who show respect, responsibility, honesty or other desirable behavior.
- **Your heroes.** Talk with your child about people such as John Lewis, Lin-Manuel Miranda, Corrie ten Boom and John Glenn and why you admire them.

Explain to your child that heroes aren't always famous. They can be familiar people like a grandmother who worked to put a child through college. Encourage your child to find or draw pictures of his heroes.



Respond to cheating by addressing the reasons why it happens

When elementary schoolers cheat in school, understanding the reasons why is an essential part of stopping the behavior. Here are four common reasons:

1. **They are afraid** of what their parents will do if they earn a poor grade. Make it clear that a low grade would not be the end of your love for your child. Say that you would be more concerned about the situation than angry.
2. **They have high** expectations for their own academic achievement. Remind your child that a grade on a test or assignment doesn't reflect a person's worth or intelligence.
3. **They think cheating** is no big deal. For many children, the line between right and wrong is still a bit blurry. Tell your child that cheating is *always* wrong. Cheaters rob themselves of learning, and they are unfair to honest students.
4. **They were asked to.** Help your child role-play turning down a request to cheat.

Source: A. Morin, "How to Discipline Your Child for Cheating in School," Verywell Family.

Helping Children Learn®

Tips Families Can Use to Help Children Do Better in School



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

December 2021



How can I help my child learn to be more patient?

Q: My son wants everything now. He complains loudly when he has to wait. His teacher says his impatience is becoming a problem in class. What can I do about this?

A: It takes patience to wait for a turn to speak, to read all the way to the end of a long book, or to understand something that isn't immediately clear. Helping your child develop more patience will make learning easier for him—and his classmates.



To strengthen patience:

- **Acknowledge the challenge.** Let your child know you understand how hard it can be to wait for something. Then explain that everyone has to learn patience, and that you will help him with this skill.
- **Set an example.** When you're stuck in traffic, for example, stay calm. Say something like, "Let's use this waiting time to make up a story."
- **Provide practice.** When your child asks for something, say, "In a minute." Enjoy activities together that require patience, such as putting together puzzles and baking.
- **Share strategies to use** while waiting, such as observing things around you and reading to pass the time until another activity.
- **Notice and praise success.** "You waited patiently while I listened to your brother. Now I am going to listen carefully to you."

Parent Quiz

Is your child spending leisure time wisely?

All work and no play is a dull way to live. But all play and no work leaves your child unprepared for life. Are you helping your child use time out of school in productive ways? Answer *yes* or *no* to the questions below:

- ___ **1. Do you set** limits on recreational screen time?
- ___ **2. Do you make** reading together a regular family activity?
- ___ **3. Do you ensure** that your child takes part in daily physical activity?
- ___ **4. Do you help** your child find out more about topics that interest her?
- ___ **5. Do you ask** your child to help you with tasks you are doing around your home?

How well are you doing?

More yes answers mean you are encouraging your child to spend free time in positive ways. For each no, try that idea.

*"The bad news is time flies. The good news is you're the pilot."
—Michael Altshuler*

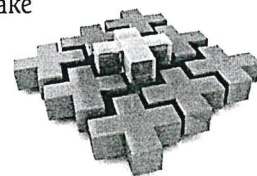
Promote persistence when the going gets tough

Schoolwork can be challenging, and there may be times your child will feel like giving up. To encourage her to persevere:

- 1. Discuss past successes.** Has she overcome obstacles like this before? How did she do it?
- 2. Set a realistic short-term goal.** Learning the two times table is a key step toward mastering multiplication.
- 3. Recognize improvement.** Trying hard and learning from mistakes are major accomplishments!

Use family meetings to teach leadership skills

Leadership develops important school skills like communication and problem-solving. But kids need to learn that good leaders aren't bossy—they make people *want* to work together. Family meetings are a great way to help your child consider other people's points of view as you work toward shared goals. Let your child take a turn chairing the meetings and making sure everyone gets a chance to be heard.



Make responsibility easier

Elementary students are still learning how to be responsible. To help your child understand and carry out responsibilities:

- **Use checklists.** Write down what your child is expected to do: chores, self-care responsibilities, tasks for school. Let him check items off as he completes them.
- **Designate places** where he should store his things when he's not using them.
- **Show him how** to track assignments and commitments on his own calendar.

Helping Children Learn®

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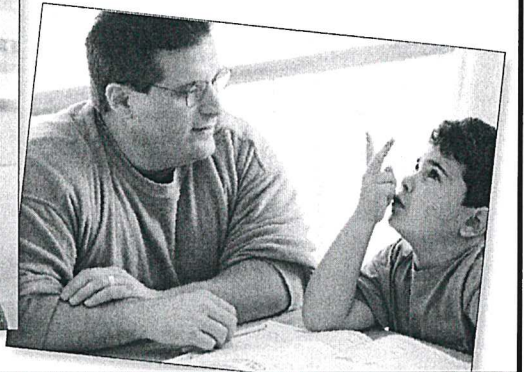
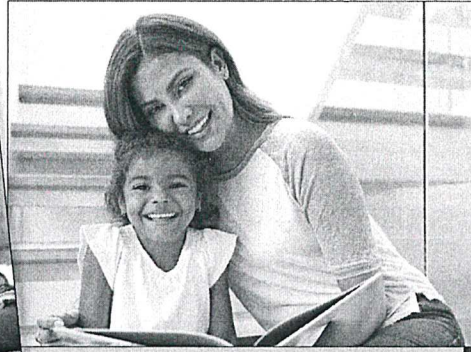
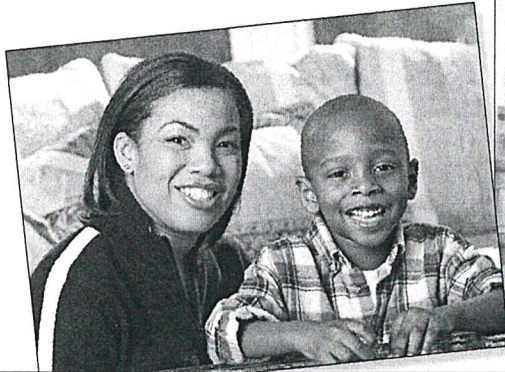
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Daily Learning Planner

*Ideas families can use to help children
do well in school*



THE
PARENT
INSTITUTE®

December • January • February 2021-2022

December 2021

Daily Learning Planner: Ideas Families Can Use to Help Children Do Well in School—Try a New Idea Every Day!

- 1. Holidays have you feeling hassled? Share the responsibility. As kids help, they appreciate holidays even more.
- 2. Have your child draw a scene from a book onto a narrow piece of cardboard to make a bookmark.
- 3. Ask your child, "If you could go anywhere, where would you go and why?" Together, do some research to learn more about this location.
- 4. If your family will be seeing older relatives this month, have your child talk to them about their school days.
- 5. Begin telling your child a story, and when you get to an exciting part, stop. Let her make up the rest.
- 6. Teach your child how to cut out paper snowflakes. Use some to decorate your windows.
- 7. Talk with your child about the nicest thing someone has ever done for him. What made it special?
- 8. Ask your child to give you an "evening news report" about her day. What's the lead story?
- 9. Name a state, province or country. Who can call out the capital first?
- 10. Have your child pick a word, then put its letters in alphabetical order.
- 11. Plan a device-free day. Let your child choose alternative activities.
- 12. Have your child compare the prices of two sizes of the same product. Which is the better buy?
- 13. Challenge family members to write, eat or do other activities with the hand they don't favor.
- 14. Discuss nutrition. Have your child name five foods that are healthy, then two foods that taste good but are not healthy.
- 15. Enjoy some physical activity with your child.
- 16. Tonight, have your child draw the moon's shape. Is it a crescent, full circle, half circle?
- 17. Ask your child to estimate how many times he blinks in a minute, then count to see.
- 18. Pay your child a genuine, specific compliment today.
- 19. With your child, think of words that sound like what they mean, such as *buzz*, *smash*, *hiss* and *thump*.
- 20. Have your child write a poem or story from the point of view of a pet.
- 21. Ask about qualities your child values in friends. Talk about why values are important.
- 22. Do body arithmetic. Ask your child how much her fingers, knees, toes and nose add up to.
- 23. Cut apart the frames of a comic strip and ask your child to arrange the pieces in the right order.
- 24. Bake cookies with your child. If you're doubling a recipe, have your child do the math.
- 25. Read a book aloud that you and your child can both enjoy.
- 26. Talk about the free or low-cost activities your family enjoyed most during 2021. If possible, make plans to do them again in 2022.
- 27. Ask for your child's help with a household task, such as making dinner.
- 28. Talk with your child about people he admires and why he does.
- 29. Have your child write step-by-step directions for making a sandwich. Then follow them exactly. Did they work?
- 30. Ask what your child would like to make an annual tradition. Start it!
- 31. Find interesting pictures of people. Ask your child to write captions.

January 2022

Daily Learning Planner: Ideas Families Can Use to Help Children Do Well in School—Try a New Idea Every Day!

- 1. Encourage your child to start a diary or journal for 2022.
- 2. Tonight, take a walk with your child. What sounds can you hear?
- 3. Brainstorm with your child about something you would both like to learn, such as how to play chess. Check out a how-to book.
- 4. Choose a number from one to 12, then have your child list all the things she can think of that come in that number.
- 5. Write an encouraging note to your child and tuck it in her lunch box or a school book.
- 6. Teach your child to take his pulse. Have him jump up and down 15 times and take it again. Has it changed?
- 7. Send your child on a treasure hunt. Make a map that will lead her to a small treat.
- 8. Have your child replace adjectives on a printed ad with their opposites.
- 9. Together, plan your child's recreational screen time for this week.
- 10. Help your child interview family and friends in career fields that interest him. What is a typical day like for them?
- 11. Have your child set a goal and write a plan to achieve it by the end of the school year.
- 12. When your child asks a question you can't answer, write it down. Keep a list of questions to look up later.
- 13. Think of several words that start with the same letter. Can your child use them in a sentence that makes sense?
- 14. Choose a news story. Cut off the headline. Challenge your child to read the article and write his own headline.
- 15. Ask your child what she thinks are her strong skills and why.

- 16. Organize something with your child, such as a closet.
- 17. Trace your child's outline on paper. Then have him research and "map" the inside of his body.
- 18. Teach your child to call 911 in an emergency. Together, practice what to say.
- 19. Explain to your child how people reach compromises. Give an example.
- 20. Read a poem aloud. Stop to let your child guess what the next rhyming word will be.
- 21. Together, role-play a difficult situation your child may face.
- 22. Give family members marshmallows and uncooked spaghetti. See who can build the tallest tower.
- 23. Look for a new kind of transportation to try with your child.
- 24. Have your child predict the results of flipping a coin 10 times. Try it and see if she's right.
- 25. Hold a family meeting. Discuss your family's goals and successes.
- 26. Write fractions on cards. Mix them up. Have your child put them in order from smallest to greatest.
- 27. Have a family jump rope contest. How many jumps can you do in a row?
- 28. Make a chore chart with your child. List his chores and when they should be completed.
- 29. Talk with your child about things people use that come from plants.
- 30. Invent a word with your child. Help her write a definition as it would appear in the dictionary.
- 31. Have your child read the label on a food he eats. What vitamins does it contain? How much sugar is in it?

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February 2022

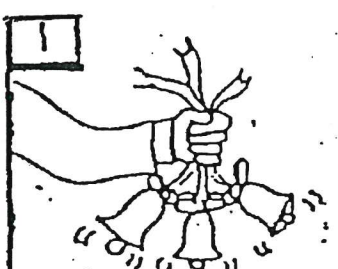
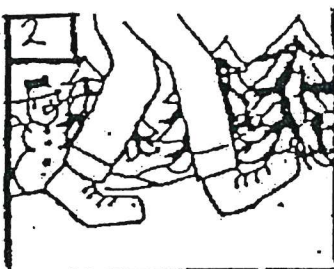

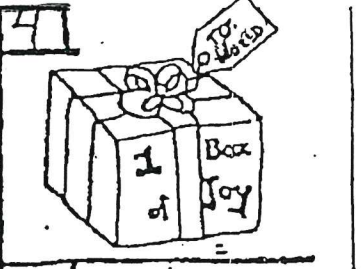
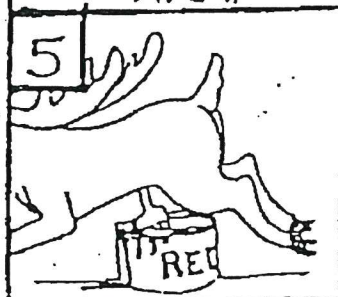

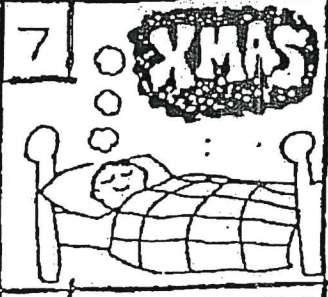
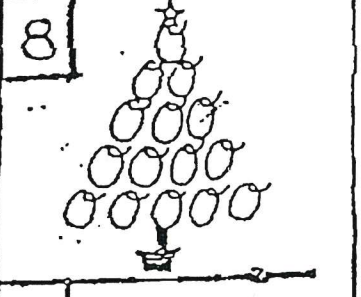
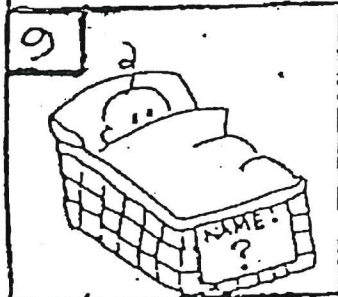
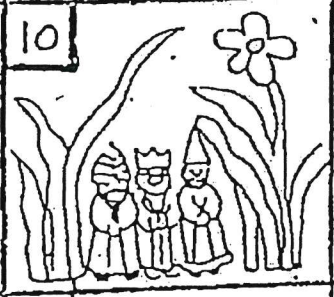
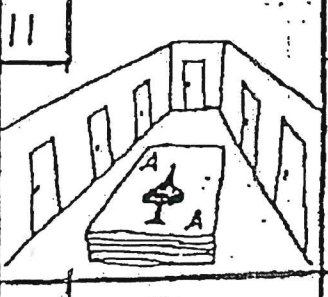
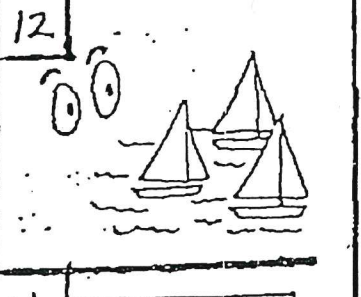
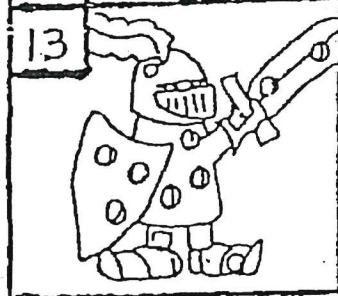
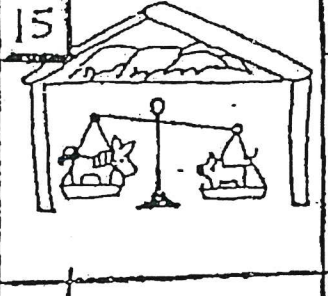

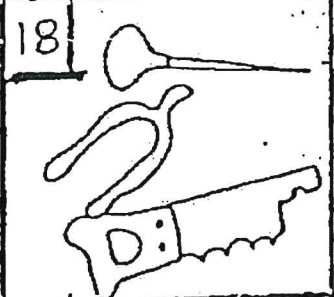
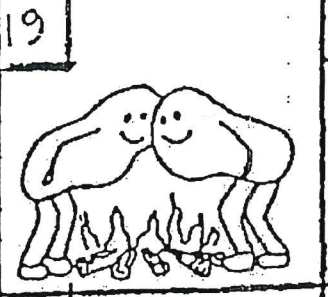

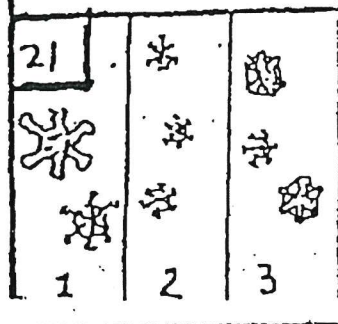



Daily Learning Planner: Ideas Families Can Use to Help Children Do Well in School—Try a New Idea Every Day!

- 1. Have a silent dinner. Then, during dessert, have family members share what they were thinking about.
- 2. It's Groundhog Day. How many words can your child make from the letters in the word GROUNDHOG?
- 3. Talk about all the things your child does right. List as many things as you can.
- 4. Have each family member write a funny sentence. Put them together to make a story.
- 5. Share an inspirational quote with your child.
- 6. When you read aloud, choose an suspenseful place to stop. Ask your child, "What do you think will happen next?"
- 7. Ask your child to name her favorite sport, and say why she likes it.
- 8. Watch the news with your child. Choose a person of the week. Together, read more about that person.
- 9. See how many words your child can use to describe the sky today.
- 10. With your child, estimate how many bowls of cereal you can pour from one box. Keep track until the box is empty.
- 11. Figure out the average of something with your child, such as family members' ages.
- 12. Visit a local or online art museum with your child and talk about the paintings.
- 13. Have your child write a special Valentine's message to someone who is sick or lonely. Help him send or deliver it.
- 14. Remind your child that you enjoy her company and let her know you love her.

- 15. Pick a category (cities, animals) and a letter. How many items from that category can your child name that begin with that letter?
- 16. Does your child need new books? Help him organize a neighborhood book swap.
- 17. Give your child weekly tickets worth 30 minutes of recreational screen time each. Let her cash in unused tickets for small treats.
- 18. Have your child design a new cover for a much-loved book.
- 19. At dinner, ask everyone to share something that made them happy this week.
- 20. Schedule a 20-minute family D.E.A.R. time (Drop Everything And Read).
- 21. At bedtime, allow a few minutes after the light is off for a quiet conversation with your child.
- 22. It's the birthday of George Washington. How many facts can your child list about this famous president?
- 23. Talk with your child about a choice you have made. Then talk about the consequences.
- 24. Look for a TV program on science or history. Watch it with your child.
- 25. Have family members write reviews of books they've read.
- 26. Have everyone in the family spend 30 minutes picking up the house. Many hands make light work.
- 27. Look at a blank map of the country together. Can your child name the states or provinces that surround yours?
- 28. Make up trivia questions about your family. Quiz one another at the dinner table.

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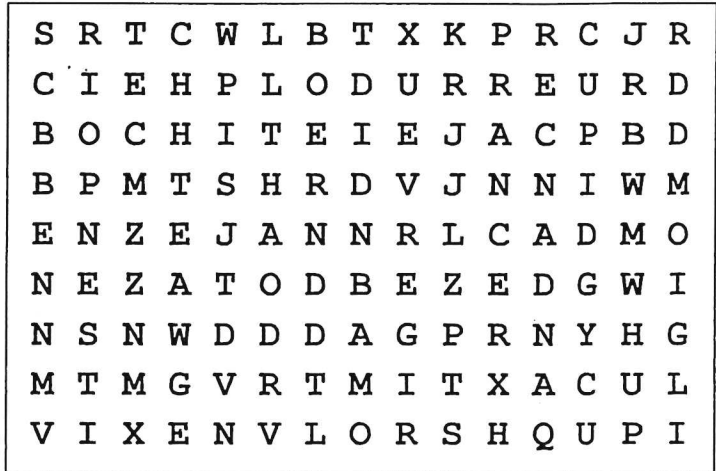
Can you name these famous holiday songs?

1 	2 	3 	4 
5 	6 	7 	8 
9 	10 	11 	12 
13 	14 A B C D E F G H I J K M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z	15 	16 DECEMBER 1 2 25 4 5 25 7 25 9 10 25 12 13 25 15 25 17 25 19 25 11 25 25 25 25 26 27 25 29 25 31
17 	18 	19 	20 
21  1 2 3	22 	23 	24 

CHRISTMAS SCRAMBLER

Unscramble the names of Santa's reindeer; then find the names in the word search puzzle.

- HDESRA _____
- CAEDRN _____
- NPRRCAE _____
- XIEVN _____
- TMCEO _____
- PUDCI _____
- RDDONE _____
- TBZLEIN _____
- PLROUDH _____



Trivia Question: In 1939, Robert L. May wrote "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" on behalf of what chain of American department stores? (Unscramble the letters for the answer.)

MOENTMYGRO DAWR _____

Unscramble the names of popular Christmas carols.

NALGES EW VHEA DHREA NO GHHI _____

AWAY NI A AGNREM _____

OOGD NKIG ESWAELNSC _____

HET ELLITT MMDERRU OYB _____

RFYOTS HET ANNMOWS _____



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