

# The Kids are Home... Now What?

## ADVICE FOR PARENTS

### MAKING THE MOST OF SCHOOL CLOSURE

Dear Parents,

Although we are sending work home for your children, the days are long when school is canceled. We also wanted to put together some suggested schedules and resources for you to help the days pass more productively.

Stay healthy and safe!

Best,

Angie Ross

Curriculum Director

### A SAMPLE DAY WITH IDEAS TO HELP FILL THE TIME

What follows is a pretty packed day with a lot of transitions. The purpose here is not to impose a structure, but to offer ideas for how to break up the time. Think of it as a menu of options; pick and choose what works for your children and your family.

**8:00** Make breakfast together

**9:00** An hour of schoolwork

**10:00** [DIY Science project](#)

**11:00** Exercise! Here are some [Indoor suggestions](#)

**12:00** [Creative lunch-making](#)

**1:00** Second session of schoolwork

**2:00** Round 2 of [physical activity](#) - we all need it...

**3:00** Healthy snack & [DIY Crafts project](#)

**4:00** Write, rehearse, and perform a play or mock commercial, or dress up time.

**5:00** [Movie](#) or [TV](#) break

**6:00** Prepare, eat, and clean up dinner; everyone helps.

**8:00** Board Games/showers/read aloud before bed

## BAKING = GREAT STEM LEARNING

Looking for fun at-home STEM enrichment? Try a baking project (or any cooking, really). Use cooking as a way to discuss measurement and fractions. Is a quarter of a cup of oil different than a quarter of a cup of sugar? How many quarter cups are needed for one cup? What would that same measurement be in grams?

After you've done all the measuring, then you can think about the chemistry of cooking. At what temperature does butter melt? Or water boil? You and your child can generate hundreds of questions and answers about math and science by the simple act of making cookies.

Then, once those cookies are made, there are all kinds of story problems! If everyone in the family gets an equal number of cookies, how many cookies does each person get? What about the ethical dimensions of cookie-making? Who should get the most? The person who cooks? Who cleans? Who buys the groceries? Or should everyone get an equal amount?

## ADDITIONAL FREE ONLINE RESOURCES

- Scholastic Book Flix (UN: Learning20 PW: Clifford): <https://tinyurl.com/tsgwwky>

Choose a category and watch a video of a book or read the book on your own. You can also do activities or explore further.

- Scholastic Learn at Home: <https://tinyurl.com/u2n97f8>

There are daily cross-curricular journeys which include 4 separate learning experiences, each built around a meaningful story or video.

- Smithsonian Natural History Virtual Tours: <https://tinyurl.com/uzyltm5>

The virtual tour allow visitors to take self-guided tours of select exhibits, collections, as well as past exhibits no longer on display.

- Virtual Museums through Google Arts and Culture: <https://tinyurl.com/ybx9vdwr>

View art and culture from around the globe, like the Van Gogh Museum in Amsterdam.

