

Growing Child

LIFE SKILLS

Last time, we were talking about the benefits of boredom, supporting kids to come up with their own ideas without parents needing to entertain or decide on their next activity. But, with the gift of all this time together, you might also want to plan some activities that would be valuable for your child's learning.

What follows is a list of useful skills. Some of them can be taught to even your youngest children, so consider what might be fun for teaching in these weeks at home.

Every child should learn how to:

- write a letter
- make a phone call, including 911
- take a message
- play with a baby
- introduce himself/herself
- hammer a nail
- set the table
- make scrambled eggs
- wash dishes
- garden
- care for a pet
- do laundry
- write a thank you letter
- make a salad
- plan a balanced meal
- use a fire extinguisher
- vacuum the stairs
- wash a car
- clean the refrigerator
- address/stamp an envelope
- put air in bicycle tires
- sew on a button
- change batteries in toy or remote control
- make a plan to save, budget
- iron a shirt
- select a thoughtful gift

-make a smoothie

-clean the bathroom

-clean the kitchen

-clean a bedroom

-change a lightbulb

-read a recipe

-peel potatoes

-fix something

-change ink cartridge in printer

-write a check

-put staples in a stapler

-read a map