

Academic Component of Pandemic Plan Elementary

Activities for Families:

- Reading – There should be many opportunities for reading throughout the day. This would include reading *to children* and having your child read *to you*. Storybooks, chapter books, magazines, newspapers, etc. are only a sampling of materials that you can use to read with your child. Take time during the reading to stop and discuss story events, ask questions about what might happen next, why a character did something, etc.
- Have a family play production. Assign a character and lines to each person. Practice and have a show when everyone knows his/her part.
- Writing - Along with reading, there are many ways to include writing into the day. Children can keep daily journals, describing events of the day. They can keep a journal that discusses the reading that they have been doing. This is a great place to think about questions they may have about the reading they are doing.
- Math – There are some very traditional activities that you can do with your child such as practicing math facts – addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division. There are also many games that help children to practice problem solving such as Sudoku. You can create “story problems” in which children have to decide whether to add, subtract, etc in order to solve the story.
- Record the weather each day, using a graph for the temperature. Make comparisons among the different days, count how many rainy days in a month, etc.
- Board games, card games, checkers, etc. are all great activities to help children think!
- Pick science and social studies topics that interest your child and do some family research to learn more about the topic. Children can read and write about the topic, but just taking time to discuss the topic is valuable.
- Art – There are many activities for coloring, painting, crafts, etc. that you can do with your child. Provide your child with the materials and encourage him/her to be creative.
- Music – Sing-a-longs, playing music while you work, dancing to music, etc.
- Cooking with children is a great way to teach math skills of measuring, introduce and practice fractions, and serve as another opportunity to read.
- Although too much television is not a good idea for children, there are several educational shows that you may consider watching with your child. *Reading Rainbow* and *Read between the Lions* are two educational shows.

- You can read a popular children's book with your child and then view the video version and make comparisons.
- Computer/Internet: There are websites and computer software that have learning games that your child can play. It's important, as always, to monitor what your child is viewing on the internet. And don't forget the opportunity to email friends.
- Knitting, crocheting, sewing, and scrap booking are all activities that children love. Family histories can be explored through scrap booking activities and writing stories or introducing children to genealogy can follow this up.
- Children and adults need exercise, so be sure to include time for a few sit-ups and some jogging in place!