



**FLORIDA PIRC**  
Parental Information  
and Resource Center

**USF**  
UNIVERSITY OF  
SOUTH FLORIDA  
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Engaging Families in Education [www.floridapirc.usf.edu](http://www.floridapirc.usf.edu)

# February 2012

## FAMILY ENGAGEMENT CALENDAR



**Have fun with your family & support your children's learning!**

**Sunday**

**Monday**

**Tuesday**

**Wednesday**

**Thursday**

**Friday**

**Saturday**



**5**  
It's **Super Bowl Sunday!**  
Make homemade party mix with your child to enjoy during the big game.



**6**  
Make it a musical Monday. Play different types of music while eating dinner.

**7**  
Give your child a lesson on how to do the laundry.



**8**  
Break out a board game after homework & chores are finished.



**9**  
Let your children know you're proud of their hard work by letting them choose the dinner menu.



**10**  
What video games are your children playing? Play a game with them & see for yourself.

**11**  
Make it a movie night. Put in an old family favorite & pop some popcorn.



**12**  
President Abraham Lincoln was born this day in 1809. Ask your child what they know about him.

**13**  
Family history is important. Create a family tree with your child.



**14**  
**Happy Valentine's Day!** Have the whole family make breakfast together.



**15**  
Make ice cube popsicles with fruit juice. They are healthy & delicious.

**16**  
The month is half over. Have dinner as a family & catch up!



**17**  
The PTA was founded 115 years ago today. Join the PTA to see what else you can do to support your child's learning.

**18**  
Ask your children about their plans for the weekend.



**19**  
What are your family's spiritual beliefs? Spend time with your child talking about the role of faith in your family's life.

**20**  
Today is **Presidents' Day**. Ask your children who their favorite president is.



**21**  
Diet & exercise are important factors in staying healthy. Is your family doing its best to stay healthy this winter?

**22**  
Does your child have a cell phone? Make sure they know how to properly use it. Reinforce rules.

**23**  
Did you know it's **National Banana Bread Day**? Make some bread at home, or buy a loaf & share with your family.

**24**  
Have a family slumber party. Put on PJ's, play games & take silly pictures.



**25**  
Pack a picnic lunch & go spend the afternoon at the park.



**26**  
Take time for reflection & rest. If you are part of a faith community, help your child connect what he learns there with school learning.

**27**  
Go for a walk or bike ride in the evening when the sun is going down.

**28**  
Pick or buy a bouquet of flowers for your child, just because.



**29**  
Why are there 29 days in February this year? Ask your child to look up the history of leap year.

**Much learning happens at home. Enjoy the opportunities!**



# Family Fun Facts



## Did you know?

- Children who eat dinner around the table with their families do better in school.
- Children who take family trips do better in school. Simple free trips to the park or library are as good as expensive trips away from home.
- Children who are read to frequently read earlier and better.
- Children who see their parents read regularly are likely to read more themselves.
- Spending 30 minutes a day with your child can help them to achieve better grades in school.
- Children love to spend time with their parents!

(Facts from Harvard Family Research Project, [www.hfrp.org](http://www.hfrp.org) )

Visit the Florida PIRC at USF's updated website [www.floridapirc.usf.edu](http://www.floridapirc.usf.edu)

for information for parents who want to learn more about helping their child succeed in school, and for educators who want to support children's learning and families' involvement in education. Check our website for:

- tip sheets with ideas to support learning,
- workshops for parents and educators,
- information on *Parents as Teachers*, a home visiting program,
- news on upcoming conferences.

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