Appendix

Suggested Activities and Resources for Learning at Home with Children

OFFLINE & ONLINE IDEAS DURING COVID-19

Aga Khan Education Services
AGA KHAN FOUNDATION
Family Time

1. **Plan surprise acts of kindness**: Encourage your child to plan one, secret surprise act of kindness for another person in the family throughout the week.

2. **Connect and learn from relatives**: Invite your child to interview older relatives or neighbours to describe what they remember about growing up when they were the same age as your child. Have your child make a record of what they learnt.

3. **Make and send 'I Appreciate You' notes**: Encourage children to make a card, draw a picture or write a note of appreciation to family relatives, neighbors, or others that do not live with you. It will lift spirits.
Family Time

4. **Cook meals together:** Invite children to help prepare a meal is a great way to spend together; especially learning new recipes. Cooking encourages children to take responsibility, and collaborate with others – and is a great way to learn mathematics.

5. **Explore family members’ personal goals:** What is one personal goal that your child hopes to complete this next year? In what ways could others in your family help your child’s efforts?
25 Offline Learning Activities & Resources
(no electronics required)

Fun Activities in the House – Learning in Mathematics, Literacy and More

6. Create 'obstacle courses' and 'homemade forts': Click here for inspiration.

7. Host family 'treasure' hunts: Create written or spoken clues for your children to search for items in the house leading to a pretend 'treasure'. Click here or here for some ideas about clues.

8. Play 'I Spy' games: Play 'I Spy' with children looking around your home or outside. Think about giving clues related to shape or colour or size. Click here for instructions.

9. Create a Family Word Jar for new vocabulary: When you read stories together, write down words that are new to your children on pieces of paper and place them in a Family Word Jar; pull them out later to practice.
Fun Activities in the House – Learning in Mathematics, Literacy and More

10. Put on puppet shows: Use old socks or other items around the house have children create homemade puppets and put on a show. Click [here](#) for some ideas.

11. Act as a journalist: Invite children to interview grandparents, parents and friends about their day or their experience with COVID-19 and present a their ‘news bulletin’ to family members.

12. Sharpen your memory: Play memory games where the family members make a story by repeating and adding items in alphabetical order 'Today we're going on a picnic, and we're bringing an apple / an apple and a banana / an apple, banana and cold water..... Click [here](#) for details.

13. Sing together and learn new songs: Explore, share, write new songs together as a family.
Fun Activities in the House – Learning in Mathematics, Literacy and More

14. **Resurrect games of yesteryear**: Have children learn and play the games and pass times of parents and grandparents.

15. **Burn energy with ‘Stop and Go Games’**: Involve children in the ‘Red Light, Green Light’ game they ‘freeze’ and then follow instructions to move in fun ways. Click [here](#) for some ideas.

16. **Challenge family members with ‘Simon Says’**: Host family ‘Simon Says’ games, using different fun directions. Click [here](#) for 101 ideas of the types of instructions you could give.

17. **Try hand-clapping games**: After washing your hands, encourage children to learn new hand clapping games or make one up and teach other members of the family. Click [here](#) or [here](#) for some ideas.
Fun Activities in the House – Learning in Mathematics, Literacy and More

18. Create using materials around the home: Using blocks or materials you would recycle (i.e. boxes, milk containers), invite children to create cities, towns, musical instruments and use what they have made to tell a story. Click here for an example and here for five more ideas.

19. Set up a store/market/restaurant in your house: Pretend your home is a store or market and add price tags to various items. Turn dinner time into a restaurant experience and encourage children to acts as waiters, make fun menus, design decorations, and even create new recipes together.

20. Play card games: With a standard 52 card deck, learn to play new card games. Children can also build card-houses and use cards for math or memory games. Click here for 10 games.
Fun Activities in the House – Learning in Mathematics, Literacy and More

21. Design and fly paper airplanes: Learn to design, build, decorate and fly paper planes together. See which plane goes the furthest or fastest! Click here for 45 paper airplane designs.

22. Create fun paper hats and play dress up: Use paper plates with children to create fun hats. Click here for directions. Children can also dress up with clothes from adults and put on fun fashion shows.

23. Make your own dice and play new games: Click here or here to learn how to make dice with paper. Then click here for some ideas of games with dice.

24. Move, dance and exercise together: Even 20 minutes a day of exercise makes a huge difference. Click here for ideas.

25. Co-create a daily family routines: Click here for some weekly sample routines for children of all ages.
Learning Across Multiple Subjects

1. **Khan Academy**: An online resource for independent learning for all ages. Click [here](#).
2. **Scholastic Learning**: Project-based, week-long learning units for grades K-9. Click [here](#).
3. **Wonderopolis**: Daily lessons of fun, 'child wonder topics' to explore. Click [here](#).
4. **PBS Learning Media**: Curated daily, subject-specific, age-appropriate materials. Click [here](#).
5. **YouTube 'Learn at Home'**: Curated channels for interactive learning videos. Click [here](#).
6. **YouTube 'PLAY' Series**: 3-minute videos of games to play at home with children. Click [here](#).
7. **Kahoot!**: Create a game show at home with custom or pre-made trivia questions. Click [here](#).
8. **Zero to Three**: Home-based play activities for children aged 12 to 24 months. Click [here](#).
9. **Vroom**: Science-based app providing practical tips for parents of young children. Click [here](#).
Learning through Reading

10. Epic: 40,000 books for children under 12 years old. Limited time for free access. Click here.
11. Audible Stories: Access to 1000s of 'read-aloud' stories from Amazon for all. Click here.
13. Antura and Letters: Global app to learn to read; available in 25 languages. Click here.
14. YouTube 'KidTimeStoryTime': Curated 'read aloud' children's books in all topics. Click here.
15. Story Time from Space: Listen to astronauts reading books from space. Click here.
16. World Reader: Storybooks for your mobile device (start with 75 free ones). Click here.
17. Story Weaver: Storybooks for children in different languages. Click here.
Learning Mathematics

19. **BedTime Math**: Daily, funny, 5-min math word problems for children of all ages. Click [here](#).

20. **Erikson Early Math**: Math-based learning games for children in early years. Click [here](#).

21. **Omnicalculator**: 1032 custom calculators to use math in the real world. Click [here](#).

22. **Photomath**: An app to take photos of math problems and receive assistance. Click [here](#).

23. **TeachBanzai**: Financial literacy for all aged children. Click [here](#).

Learning about Science and Technology

24. **Nasa Kids Club**: A range of STEM resources related to science and space for children. Click [here](#).

25. **MosaMackScience**: Science/engineering challenges for children aged 9 to 13. Click [here](#).

26. **Coding**: Explore how to code at either Code.org (click [here](#)) or Code Academy (click [here](#)).

27. **TypingClub**: Encourage children and young people to learn and master typing. Click [here](#).
Learning through Exercise, Play and Exploration

28. **GoNoodle**: A suite of online, fun exercise videos for children, developed by experts. Click [here](#).
29. **Playworks**: A helpful list of children's physical activities for use within indoors. Click [here](#).
30. **YoReMi**: A site with yoga activities for children, now free during the COVID-19 crisis. Click [here](#).
31. **ChessKid**: Learn how to play chess and play with children around the world. Click [here](#).
32. **FiveMinuteMum**: Curated list of 5-minute activities children can do at home for fun. Click [here](#).
33. **Virtual Museums**: Explore 12 virtual museums that match children's interests. Click [here](#).

Learning a New Language

34. **Duolingo**: Learn a foreign language through an interactive, downloadable app. Click [here](#).
35. **CommonSenseMedia**: Curated list of 33 sites/apps to learn a foreign language. Click [here](#).
PART III

5 Resources for Talking about COVID-19 with Children


2. The Red Cross: A list of advice and resources for speaking to children about COVID-19. Click here.


5. YouTube Baby Shark Song for Handwashing: Children's video for hand washing. Click here.

For updated information, it is important to reference the WHO as a trusted source as the situation evolves.
PART IV

10 Websites for More Learning Materials

1. **UNESCO**: Repository offline/online learning websites during school closures. Click [here](#).

2. **INEE**: Repository of offline/online resources for education in emergencies. Click [here](#).

3. **UNICEF**: Responses to COVID-19 for children (click [here](#)) and online safety guides (click [here](#)).

4. **World Bank**: Repository of resources for supporting children learning at home. Click [here](#).

5. **Save the Children**: Repository of COVID-19 learning at home resources for families. Click [here](#).
6. **Forbes Magazine:** 101 ideas for supporting children's learning at home. Click [here](#).

7. **We Are Teachers:** 1000+ learning at home resources listed by grade/subject. Click [here](#).

8. **Amazing Educators:** 1000+ crowdsourced ideas for learning during COVID-19. Click [here](#).

9. **Oxford University:** List of recommended home learning resources from the UK. Click [here](#).

10. **ECD Action Network:** List of resources for promoting early childhood development. Click [here](#).