

## TEN TIPS FOR PARENTS

1. **Practice Math Daily.** Measure items around the house or yard. Track daily temperatures. Add and subtract at the grocery store. Cooking is a chance to learn fractions.
2. **Do Good Deeds.** Students learn better and 'act out' less when they engage in activities that aid in their social-emotional development. Take the Unity Bead Challenge – visit [www.abetterfootprint.org/unitybeadchallenge](http://www.abetterfootprint.org/unitybeadchallenge)
3. **Take the Scholastic Summer Challenge** – Log your minutes, earn points, help a cause, and read for the world record! All you have to do is:
  - Take a fun quiz to get sorted onto a team.
  - Score points by logging the minutes you read each day.
  - Earn bonus points by taking games, quizzes, and polls.
  - Win prizes and sweepstakes while you are at it.

At the end of the summer, the winning team gets to vote on which Save the Children U.S. program will receive a special donation from Scholastic in your team's name! Your minutes can also count toward the World Record Challenge! Visit <http://www.scholastic.com/summerreading/>

4. **Laura Ingalls Wilder Day** at Heritage Hill State Historical Park on August 1<sup>st</sup>. Activities include bullet making, cake baking, and more. Visit [www.heritagehillgb.org](http://www.heritagehillgb.org).
5. Every Sunday all summer long is **"Mom I'm Board" Game Day** at the East Towne Mall Gnome Games store. Stop in and try a new game from noon- 5pm. Free.
6. **Do a word search puzzle.**
7. **Devise a magazine scavenger hunt.** Using old magazines or newspapers have your kids find a picture of each item you put on a list. For example: a 'got milk' ad, a woman with red hair, a cartoon, a perfume bottle, etc.
8. **Geocaching** – This is like a 'treasure chest' hidden somewhere in the community that you can find by using a GPS and following coordinates.
9. **Find constellations in the night sky!** Search 'constellation maps' to find one easy for you to follow.
10. **Play charades** - Charades is a great family game. To begin, split into two teams and move into separate rooms. Each team should write down words, names, places, books, movies, etc. on pieces of paper. These are then exchanged with the other team. Teams take turns picking a piece of paper and silently acting out what's on the paper. Each time a player takes a turn, use a stopwatch to track the time. The team with the shortest overall time is the winner. This is a great learning game that can help expand kids' vocabulary and knowledge.

### Websites to visit:

<http://kids.nationalgeographic.com>

<http://www.kidsnumbers.com>

<http://www.familyeducation.com>

<http://pbskids.org>

<http://www.coolmath4kids.com>