

Fun Family Traditions

THAT FOSTER TOGETHERNESS

DOZENS OF EASY WAYS TO MAKE EVERY MONTH OF THE YEAR MORE MEMORABLE

JANUARY

- * Pray for God's guidance & blessing in the New Year
- * Eat black-eyed peas
- * Write thank you notes
- * Begin a new Bible-reading plan or a family-friendly devotional book
- * Build a snowman
- * Drink hot cocoa
- * Cut paper snowflakes
- * Read a great book aloud
- * Work a jigsaw puzzle
- * Plant onions
- * Pop some popcorn
- * Pull out the sleeping bags for an indoor campout
- * Roast marshmallows in your fireplace and make s'mores

FEBRUARY

- * Make a bird feeder
- * Watch Groundhog Day
- * Eat groundhog cupcakes
- * Recite 1 Corinthians 13
- * Host a mother/daughter Valentine's Brunch
- * Weave paper hearts
- * Share a box of chocolates
- * Have an all-red meal
- * Sing US Presidents song
- * Go daffodil hunting
- * Do random acts of kindness
- * Go ice skating

MARCH

- * Celebrate Seuss's birthday
- * Read Green Eggs and Ham
- * Help campaign for a politician you support
- * Fly a kite
- * Go fishing
- * Shoot some hoops
- * Wear something green for St Patrick's Day
- * Eat green cuisine
- * Cook a pot of Irish stew
- * Admire azaleas and other spring blooms
- * Cook in bulk and stock the freezer (frozen food month)

APRIL

- * Make resurrection cookies
- * Buy an Easter lily
- * Dye/decorate Easter eggs
- * Host an Easter egg hunt
- * Watch The Passion
- * Make homemade pretzels
- * Take a walk in the rain (umbrellas optional)
- * Plant a tree
- * Read a book of poetry
- * Play Scrabble
- * Plant new annuals
- * Stage a cherry pit spitting competition with prizes
- * Draw family chalk portraits on the sidewalk or driveway

MAY

- * Leave May baskets on neighbor's doors
- * Hunt wild blackberries
- * Bake blackberry cobbler
- * Break open a piñata for Cinco de Mayo
- * Play Putt-Putt golf
- * Go on a family bike ride
- * Sign your kids up for a summer reading program
- * Pick your mom a bouquet for Mother's Day
- * Write Limericks as a group
- * Do the chicken dance
- * Attend a Memorial Day wreath hanging ceremony
- * Have a crawfish boil with cob corn and new potatoes

JUNE

- * Play a game of baseball
- * Pack a picnic
- * Go blueberry picking
- * Make blueberry muffins
- * Hunt lightning bugs
- * Take Dad breakfast in bed
- * Host an ice cream social (have friends bring their favorite toppings)
- * Make "Sun Tea"
- * Eat strawberry shortcake
- * Have a hula hoop contest
- * Can pickles and preserves

JULY

- * Pray for America
- * Fly the Flag
- * Cook hot dogs and/or hamburgers out on the grill
- * Buy your kids sparklers
- * Go see a fireworks display
- * Listen to John Phillips Sousa
- * Wear glow-in-the-dark necklaces to play after dark
- * Visit a water park
- * Volunteer at a soup kitchen or library or neighborhood clean-up committee
- * Go to the zoo
- * Head to the community swimming pool for a family diving exhibition
- * Explore your hometown

AUGUST

- * Play water volleyball
- * Make cherry turnovers
- * Visit a science museum
- * Conduct an experiment
- * Eat fondue
- * Go to the beach
- * Build sand castles
- * Collect seashells
- * Break open your banks to count and roll loose change
- * Team up for 3-legged races
- * Break out the water colors and paint some pictures
- * Enjoy ice cold watermelon
- * Make banana splits
- * Have a tea party
- * Shop for school supplies
- * Watch Davy Crockett wearing coonskin caps

SEPTEMBER

- * Make homemade pizza
- * Play some flag football or ultimate frisbee as a family
- * Pick apples
- * Bake apple dumplings and serve them with ice cream
- * Stock your closets with sweaters and other cool weather clothing
- * Go visit the grandparents (or adopt new ones from a local nursing home)
- * Make hats out of felt or newspaper for National Hat Making Day (Sept. 15)
- * Make homemade play-doh
- * Watch Mary Poppins
- * Eat ice cream cones
- * Go to the lake and have a stone-skipping contest

OCTOBER

- * Attend the State Fair
- * Enter cooking or craft contests there
- * Camp out
- * Gaze at the stars
- * Admire the fall foliage
- * Have a log-splitting contest
- * Build a bonfire
- * Visit a pumpkin patch
- * Go on a hay ride
- * Conquer a corn maze
- * Play charades
- * Make/update a family tree
- * Play "fictionary" or "pictionary" on Oct. 16 (Dictionary Day)
- * Pass out gospel tracts with candy to trick-or-treaters

NOVEMBER

- * Go to an airport and watch the planes take off
- * Make pinecone turkeys
- * Read Pilgrim Stories
- * Stuff a shoebox for Operation Christmas Child
- * Make button crafts (11/16)
- * Play Monopoly (11/19)
- * Start a gratefulness journal
- * Count your blessings
- * Run in a 5K Turkey Trot
- * Bake sweet potatoes
- * Rake leaves
- * Play in the piles before bagging or composting
- * Put on a recording of "The William Tell Overture" and dance with your kids

DECEMBER

- * Make an advent calendar from candy kisses
- * Put up house lights
- * Trim the Christmas tree
- * Memorize/review Luke 2
- * Watch It's a Wonderful Life
- * Volunteer as a bell-ringer for the Salvation Army
- * Go Christmas caroling
- * Drink hot apple cider
- * Make fantasy fudge and other holiday treats
- * Attend a Christmas concert
- * Buy new PJ's
- * Hang Christmas stockings
- * Read A Christmas Carol
- * Give to those less fortunate
- * Make any needed New Year's Resolutions