

APRIL 2009 LEARNING CALENDAR



Mathematics



Science



Reading



Writing



Social Studies



Recreation



Music



Computer



Day Trips



Art



Communicating

P-PREKINDERGARTEN

E-ELEMENTARY

S-SECONDARY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<p>1 Do something silly: wear a funny hat, sing a wacky song, and have a happy laugh. Smile. It's April Fool's Day! P, E, S </p>	<p>2 Do your part to save the planet! Calculate your ecological footprint at www.myfootprint.org. Make good choices for the environment. E, S </p>	<p>3 Spring break starts today. Consider spending some of your free time doing community service: help a needy neighbor with yard work, or volunteer at a shelter. P, E, S </p>	<p>4 The National Aquarium debuts "Our Ocean Planet," a new dolphin show that explores Earth's waters and some of its most fascinating creatures. P, E, S </p>
<p>5 The Great Scale Model Train Show features displays, movies, and a special kids' area at the Timonium Fairgrounds. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. www.gsmts.com P, E, S </p>	<p>6 Create a swap group with friends who share your tastes and interests. Get together once a month to trade books, music, and movies. P, E, S </p>	<p>7 The water that covers 70 percent of Earth's surface sustains life on our planet. Name the oceans, and describe what happens when pollution threatens those ecosystems. E, S </p>	<p>8 Have a contest to see who can create the least amount of waste. Look for items with minimal packaging. Reuse bags and bottles. Recycle! E, S </p>	<p>9 What are the main causes of air pollution? Why is the pollution problem in one country different from that in another? P, E, S </p>	<p>10 Challenge your children to think of onomatopoeias, words like "buzz" that sound like their meanings. Include those words in a poem. E, S </p>	<p>11 Visit the Hampton National Historic Site mansion and park in Towson to discover the history and nature of colonial times in Baltimore County. P, E, S Free! </p>
<p>12 Appreciate your pets! Visit the Maryland Historical Society for a look at art and artifacts in an exhibit titled "The Maryland SPCA: 140 Years of Car-ing." P, E, S </p>	<p>13 Check your faucets at home for drips. What would happen if every faucet in every home in your neighborhood dripped? E, S </p>	<p>14 Take a family walk after dinner. How does the night sky differ from the sky during the day? What happens to the sun? P, E, S </p>	<p>15 Name some of the programs that are paid for with income taxes. What programs would you like to add? Estimate how much they might cost. E, S </p>	<p>16 Where does rain come from, and where does it go? What happens to a drop of rain after it falls from a cloud? E, S </p>	<p>17 Write about springtime using all five senses: "I see flowers blooming, I hear birds singing." Illustrate your work with drawings or a collage. E, S </p>	<p>18 Explore the exhibits and nature trails of the Irvine Nature Center in Owings Mills. How do wild animals adapt to the changing weather? P, E, S Free! </p>
<p>19 Check out the "Sunday Experiment" at the Goddard Space Flight Visitor Center. Design planets and stars; build rockets and hover crafts. 1 - 3 p.m. </p>	<p>20 Use the letters in your first and last names to write adjectives describing yourself. E, S </p>	<p>21 Talk about career ideas with family and friends. What careers interest you? What are the educational requirements for those jobs? E, S </p>	<p>22 Earth Day was established in 1970 to promote ecological awareness. How do we live differently today? E, S </p>	<p>23 Which famed British author of <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> was born on this date in 1564 and died on the same date in 1616? What other plays did he write? E, S </p>	<p>24 In 1704 the first American newspaper was published in Boston. How would you inform people about important news today? E, S </p>	<p>25 Travel to the B&O Railroad Museum for a "Day Out With Thomas the Tank Engine and Friends." Activities include stories, train rides, and Legos. P, E </p>
<p>26 Learn how to create an aquatic habitat during "Water Gardens 101" at Cromwell Valley Park. 1-3 p.m. Reservations required. 410-887-2503 P, E, S </p>	<p>27 It's Playground Safety Day. Review safety rules and procedures for play at home, parks, and school. Why is it important to take precautions? P, E </p>	<p>28 Write a television or radio ad about protecting the environment. How would you convince people to act responsibly? E, S </p>	<p>29 In the Dr. Seuss book <i>The Lorax</i>, which character said, "I speak for the trees!"? Why did he feel so strongly about saving the environment? E, S </p>	<p>30 In 1789, George Washington became the first President of the United States. Compare the types of energy Washington used to what President Obama uses today. E, S </p>		

TOPICS OF INTEREST



The **National Aquarium in Baltimore** is home to more than 10,500 specimens and 560 species. Exhibits are designed to replicate natural environments and avoid the unnatural mixing of species. www.aqua.org

501 East Pratt St.
Baltimore, MD 21202
410-576-3800

In 1790, the Hampton mansion was the largest house in the United States. Today, the homes, buildings, farm, and former slave quarters of the **Hampton National Historic Site** offer visitors a unique look at colonial times in Baltimore County. www.nps.gov/hamp

535 Hampton Lane
Towson, MD 21286
410-823-1309

The Maryland Historical Society was founded in 1844 as a resource for the people of Maryland and those interested in Maryland history. Library and museum collections central to the state's history promote research and educate the public through publications and fine art. www.mdhs.org

201 West Monument Street
Baltimore, MD 21201-4674
410- 685-3750

The **Irvine Nature Center** in Owings Mills provides environmental education for Baltimore-area schools, students, and the public. The center includes a museum, nature store, and a walking trail. www.explorenature.org

11201 Garrison Forest Road
Owings Mills, MD 21117
443-738-9200

The "Sunday Experiment" at the **Goddard Space Flight Center** is held the third Sunday of each month through May 2009. In addition to celebrating all things science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, the event celebrates major science missions that are managed by Goddard. www.nasa.gov/centers/goddard

8800 Greenbelt Road
Greenbelt, MD 20771
301-286-3978

Cromwell Valley Park is a 380-acre stream valley park of cultivated gardens, open fields, woods, hedgerows, orchards, and wooded piedmont hills. It is open for visitation 365 days a year. www.cromwellvalleypark.org

2002 Cromwell Bridge Road
Baltimore, MD 21234
410-887-2503