

# MAY 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><b>1</b> Hear and see animal tails and tales with a naturalist from the Irvine Nature Center at the Rosedale Library 10:30 – 11:30 a.m. Check <a href="http://www.bcpl.info">www.bcpl.info</a> for story times in your area. <b>P</b></p> | <p><b>2</b> The 42<sup>nd</sup> annual Towson-town Spring Festival will feature music, crafts, and food. The event runs through Sunday around the Towson Courthouse Square. <b>P, E, S</b></p> <p><b>Free!</b> </p> |
| <p><b>3</b> Create a self-portrait at the Baltimore Museum of Art on Family Sunday. Each week features different free family fun activities. 2 p.m. <b>P, E, S</b></p> <p><b>Free!</b> </p>  | <p><b>4</b> International Firefighters' Day was established to honor the sacrifices that firefighters make to keep communities safe. Thank a firefighter today! <b>P, E, S</b></p> | <p><b>5</b> Take a minute (or more) to thank a teacher today. Write a quick note or a poem; give teachers their due for all they do. <b>P, E, S</b></p>                           | <p><b>6</b> Create a "Word of the Day" game for your family. Pick a word in the morning and see who can use it at least three times during the day. <b>E, S</b></p>  | <p><b>7</b> Mister Potato Head was introduced in 1952. Which vegetables would you use to create toys? Sketch your designs to expand your ideas. <b>P, E, S</b></p>                               | <p><b>8</b> Go fly a kite! What keeps a kite in flight? Why does a tail help? <b>P, E, S</b></p>   | <p><b>9</b> In 1994, Nelson Mandela was chosen to be South Africa's first black president. How would you compare that country with the United States today? <b>E, S</b></p>   |
| <p><b>10</b> Research the life of your great-great-great grandmother or other female ancestor. Write her a letter. How did her life affect your life? <b>E, S</b></p>  | <p><b>11</b> The dandelion flower produces fluffy, white seeds. What happens to those seeds when they spread? <b>E, S</b></p>  | <p><b>12</b> Poet and humorist Edward Lear was known for whimsical limericks; he was born on this date in 1812. Define <i>limerick</i> and write one of your own. <b>E, S</b></p> | <p><b>13</b> Prepare your children to protect themselves from bad choices. How will they respond when offered a cigarette? What if they are asked to cheat? <b>E, S</b></p>  | <p><b>14</b> In 1828, Noah Webster's first dictionary contained 70,000 entries. How many words does a dictionary have today? What new words do you think should be added? <b>E, S</b></p>        | <p><b>15</b> What is an <i>average</i> rainfall in Baltimore? What is a typical <i>batting average</i>? What are averages and how are they calculated? <b>E, S</b></p>   | <p><b>16</b> The 134th Preakness Stakes will run today. How much does a thoroughbred weigh? What is the distance of the race? How fast could you run it? <b>P, E, S</b></p>   |
| <p><b>17</b> Help your children create a book of summer contacts. Put phone numbers, addresses, and email contacts in a notebook to help them keep in touch with their friends. <b>E, S</b></p>  | <p><b>18</b> High School Assessment testing begins this week. Make sure your high school student gets enough rest and encouragement. <b>S</b></p>                                  | <p><b>19</b> Remind your children that they are individuals: take fingerprints and make fingerprint art. How are the prints different? How are they alike? <b>P, E, S</b></p>     | <p><b>20</b> "Children's Mental Health Matters!" is a state-wide campaign. Let your children know they can talk to you about stress. <b>P, E, S</b> <a href="http://www.childrensmentalhealthmatters.org">www.childrensmentalhealthmatters.org</a></p> | <p><b>21</b> In 1881, nurse Clara Barton founded the American Red Cross to help victims of war and disasters. Create and practice a home escape plan. <b>P, E, S</b></p>                         | <p><b>22</b> Craft birdfeeders from pine cones. Spread peanut butter on the cones, and then roll in bird seed. Hang the birdfeeder outside on a tree and watch the birds snack. <b>P, E, S</b></p>   | <p><b>23</b> The Contemporary Museum in Baltimore exhibits works that explore the earth's natural resources and examine the energy produced by human bodies. <b>P, E, S</b> <b>Free!</b> </p>                       |
| <p><b>24</b> Enjoy the Greater Baltimore Youth Orchestras at the Meyerhoff Symphony Hall in Baltimore. 4 p.m. <b>E, S</b></p> <p><b>31</b> It's No Tobacco Day. What are the dangers of smoking and chewing? Talk about it! <b>P, E, S</b></p> | <p><b>25</b> Memorial Day was established to honor those who have died in service to our country. How can you respect fallen soldiers? <b>P, E, S</b></p>                          | <p><b>26</b> Create a list of five activities you'd like to do as a family this summer. How can you work together to accomplish your ideas? <b>E, S</b></p>                       | <p><b>27</b> Sharing is a valuable lesson for school, home, and family. How do you evenly distribute toys? What fraction is 50 percent? <b>E</b></p>   | <p><b>28</b> Check out the BCPS student exhibit through Sunday at the Baltimore Museum of Art. "Art Is for Everyone" will showcase the artwork of students in grades PreK-12. <b>P, E, S</b></p> | <p><b>29</b> The Maryland Historical Society honors World War II veterans from Maryland with an exhibit of uniforms, small arms, and military equipment. The exhibit runs through Dec. 31. <b>E, S</b></p>                                   | <p><b>30</b> The Pumpkin Theatre in Owings Mills presents "The Fabulous Fable Factory," a musical journey of ethical tales. Show times are 1 and 3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. <b>P, E</b></p>                        |

# TOPICS OF INTEREST



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 walking trail.

[www.explorenature.org](http://www.explorenature.org)

11201 Garrison Forest Road  
Owings Mills, MD 21117  
410-739-9200

The **Towsontown Spring Festival** is the largest outdoor festival in Maryland and one of the largest on the east coast. Nearly 250,000 visitors are expected to attend the two-day event, featuring more than 450 vendors and more than 50 entertainment acts. Opening ceremonies will include a fly-over by the 135th Air Lift Group from the Maryland Air National Guard. [www.towsontownspringfestival.com](http://www.towsontownspringfestival.com)

400 Washington Avenue  
Towson, MD 21204  
410-825-1150

The **Baltimore Museum of Art** holds 90,000 works of art—including the largest collection of works by Henri Matisse in the world. The outdoor sculpture gardens provide an additional artistic oasis.

[www.artbma.org](http://www.artbma.org)

10 Art Museum Dr.  
Baltimore, MD 21218  
443-573-1700

**The Contemporary Museum** presents exhibits and art with social and political intent at its permanent Mount Vernon location and in changing venues throughout Baltimore City. The museum also provides educational outreach to underserved communities throughout the city.

[www.contemporary.org](http://www.contemporary.org)

100 W. Centre Street  
Baltimore, MD 21201  
410-783-5720

**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](http://www.mdhs.org)

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