

FAMILY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AT-HOME AND ONLINE LEARNING DURING SCHOOL CLOSURES

While we at **Catapult Learning** firmly believe that nothing can replace direct instruction and support from our teachers, we offer the following as a resource and guide to help families plan for disruption to the normal educational environment.

Establishing an Environment for Learning

Below are some suggestions which may help your child/ren transition to distance learning during an extended school closure:



If possible, set up a dedicated space at home, free from distraction, with room for a device, classwork materials, and supplies.



Talk with your child prior to the transition, to alleviate fears or concerns.



If possible, keep an open line of communication with your student's school, teachers and other families in your community, via e-mail, online chat, discussion forms or videoconferencing ([Zoom is FREE right now!](#)).



Be clear about expectations, while setting achievable goals for students.



Create schedules with your child to help them adhere to some level of normalcy comparative to the traditional classroom. Offer flexibility but encourage a routine. See sample schedules like the ones below, adapted from [Khan Academy](#):

Time	Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd Grade	3rd-5th Grade	6th-8th Grade	High School
8-9 am	Breakfast and Getting Ready: encourage students to keep the routine of dressing for a school day			
9:00-9:30 am	Math Packets <i>Online math activities</i>	Math Packets <i>Online math activities</i>		
9:30-9:45 am	Play - ideally outside if weather permits			
9:45-10 am		Shorter Break: 15 mins		
10:00-10:30 am	Reading time - with parent or sibling if available	Reading Packets <i>Online reading activities</i>	Reading Packets <i>Online reading activities</i> Silent Reading	
10:30-11 am	Respond to Reading: write or draw	Silent Reading		
11:00-11:30 am	Break - ideally run around and play outside	Shorter Break: 15 mins		
		Grammar Work		
11:30 am-12:00 pm	Phonics or Grammar <i>Online reading activities</i>	Writing or Journaling with Prompts		
12-1 pm	Lunch			
1-2 pm	Science and Social Studies Online Activities (see suggestions below)			
2:00-2:30 pm	Free time: hobbies, exploring new things	Walk/Yoga/Exercise App or Website (see suggestions below)		
2:30-3:30 pm	Enrichment activity: coding class, art, baking, craft-making			

Instructional Materials – Math & Reading Packets

Printable math and reading lessons and activity packs are available for you to use at home. You can access these materials directly [here](#) or visit <http://i-ready.com/athome>.

Online Instruction

Internet Access at Home

Families in need of high-speed Internet access can find companies offering free or low-cost services during this time. Contact your current Internet/cable service provider to see if they are offering specials in your area or the companies below:

Comcast: <https://www.internetessentials.com/covid19>

Spectrum: Families can call **(844) 488-8395** to enroll. Installation fees will be waived. Regular pricing will take effect at the end of the 60-day period if a customer doesn't cancel or change the service.

Online Learning Activities

The list below are offerings and activities available from many organizations* to support online learning.

Activity/Content Area	Description and Sample Website URL
Virtual Field Trips and Geographic Site Tours	Discovery Education: https://www.discoveryeducation.com/community/virtual-field-trips/ San Diego Zoo: https://kids.sandiegozoo.org/videos The Great Wall of China: https://www.thechinaguide.com/destination/great-wall-of-china
Online Games with Content Area Focus	The Election Process: icivics.com or https://pbskids.org/youchoose Food Chains: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zbnbn9q Funbrain Math Zone: https://www.funbrain.com/math-zone
Silent Reading and Storytime	International Children's Digital Library: http://en.childrenslibrary.org/ Open Library: https://openlibrary.org/ Barnes and Noble: https://www.barnesandnoble.com/b/free-ebooks/nook-books/kids Storyline Online: https://www.youtube.com/user/StorylineOnline/about
Writing Prompts	Writeable: https://www.writable.com/ Scholastic Story Starter: http://www.scholastic.com/teachers/story-starters/
Grammar	K12 Reader: https://www.k12reader.com/spelling-worksheets/ Starfall: https://www.starfall.com/h/
Art and Music	Art for Kids Hub: https://www.youtube.com/user/ArtforKidsHub Music Memory: https://www.primarygames.com/arcade/music/musicmemory/ Drawing Now: https://www.drawingnow.com/tutorials/
Physical Fitness	Go Noodle: https://www.gonoodle.com/ Fitness Apps: https://www.common sense.org/education/top-picks/best-nutrition-health-and-fitness-apps-for-kids
Enrichment Activities	Online Coding: https://scratch.mit.edu/ Hour of Code: https://hourofcode.com/us
Social Studies	National Geographic: https://www.nationalgeographic.org/education/resource-library Library of Congress: https://www.loc.gov/ Smithsonian Education: https://learninglab.si.edu/
General Content	Khan Academy: https://www.khanacademy.org/ CK12: http://ck12.org BrainPop: https://www.brainpop.com/ Kahoot!: https://kahoot.com/family-friends/ Scholastic: https://classroommagazines.scholastic.com/support/learnathome.html

*The sites and companies represented are not affiliated with Catapult Learning.