

Practical tips and resources to use in your home



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DEAR FAMILIES,

All of us at Intel recognize that these are challenging times and that you are being asked to do more than ever before. Parents everywhere have been thrust into the role of remote educator: having to teach your children from home with widely varying tools and resources in an environment for which we were all under-prepared. As a technology industry leader, Intel has developed this guide to help you leverage educational technology as all of us shift into "remote teaching and learning mode."

Some of you may live in areas where school systems have converted to an entirely online model of instruction while many others are sending home packets of worksheets. A handful of other districts are, regrettably, canceling the remainder of the school year. Regardless of what your child's school system is doing, the COVID-19 pandemic is likely creating a profound shift in your work and family dynamic. My sincere wish is that this guide can help you to adjust to this "new normal," if only just a bit.

As states and districts modify alignment to structured academic standards and testing requirements, I am hopeful that your children will have time to identify personal passions and the opportunity to turn those passions into skills that will be beneficial to their futures. Intel has hired some of the top educators in the U.S. to help bring these curated recommendations and resources to you. I hope you find them helpful with your child's learning journey.



PARENTS' GUIDE TO REMOTE LEARNING INTRODUCTION

In the beginning of March, most of us were spending our days working while our children were in their schools learning. In less than one month, our lives have been turned upside down. Now, many of us are staying in our homes, trying to do it all: maintaining our jobs, ensuring our children are learning, and keeping everyone happy, safe, and healthy.

Regardless of what your school district is offering, the success of remote learning falls largely on the shoulders of the families as well as the learning environment and routines established in the home.

"The stresses of caregiving...are rising for everyone...This is a moment in time for all of us to stretch the limits of our abilities and the boundaries of our creative capacities.... Please remain connected, stay safe, and share your creative ideas."

Dr. Jack P Shonkoff, Harvard University

This can be intimidating for any parent. However, this time of change can also create new opportunities. As teachers shift away from some of the constraints of a traditional classroom, many are enriching the existing curriculum with opportunities for children to focus on their natural interests. We, as parents, can help our children to foster their passions, and learn and grow alongside them. No one is expecting the transition to remote learning to be without its challenges and missteps. Give yourself space to try new things. If an idea flops, you can try something different tomorrow. If it works, build on it and share it with others. You are not alone!

We know that your goal as a parent is to keep your child healthy, happy, and busy learning while schools are closed. We understand this is a huge task—this guide is designed to lighten your load just a bit.





Written by educators with deep expertise in virtual and blended learning environments as well as curriculum design, this guidebook and companion resources are designed to help you set up your new home learning routine. With specific tips and curated resources, you will have the support you need to start on a remote learning adventure with your children!

Throughout this guide, you will find links to a variety of websites with additional ideas. We have also created over 20 tip sheets with project ideas and tools for parents using <u>authentic images</u> and in-home settings. Our hope is that by narrowing down your options it will make it easier to find ideas that are practical for you to use in your home.



Use QR code to access full version and additional resources.

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PARENTS' GUIDE TO REMOTE LEARNING IN YOUR HOME

As you have likely already discovered, setting up a new routine with your family can be challenging. However, investing time in creating a routine will help keep your kids on track, establish expectations for the day, and allow you to support their learning.

Most educational experts recommend dedicating time at the beginning of the day to set expectations and garner commitments from your children. They also recommend devoting time in the afternoon to have your child show their work and explain what they have learned. Holding these types of family meetings on a consistent basis helps to develop new routines and keeps your children working to meet your expectations.

To ensure that expectations are clear, co-create a visual learning schedule with your children. This will increase buy-in and encourage children to take responsibility for their learning, while making sure their voice is heard. Include age-appropriate chores to lighten your workload, too. Here are a <u>sample</u> <u>daily schedule</u> and <u>weekly schedule</u> to get you started.

Remember to be patient: designing and implementing new home routines takes time. Begin by trying out some of the ideas found in the resource links in this guidebook and adapt them to work for your family. For example, some families may want to have early wake up times, while those with teens may find that letting them sleep in gives them much needed rest — and you some of dedicated work time! Most importantly, expect things to not go as planned all the time. No one is handing out the "Perfect Pandemic Parent Award", so know that some days will be better than others!

WHAT DOES REMOTE LEARNING LOOK LIKE?

- » A combination of virtual, physical and project-based activities
- » A mixture of teacher-directed, selfdirected and parent-led experiences
- » An opportunity for children to be responsible for learning, chores and supporting the family
- » An opportunity for learners to explore and develop their passions
- » A time to virtually collaborate with teachers, family members and peers

View parent resources



Schedules are useful, but don't forget to plan for days when everyone is going to need a break. Your family's emotional wellness is a top priority—sometimes, they will just need the freedom to break the rules and choose an activity that makes them happy in the moment! This could include a favorite app or educational TV programming that allows for you as a parent to rest and recover, while providing your children a well-deserved learning opportunity in a relaxed setting.

Having clear expectations that the entire family agrees upon will empower your kids too. Now is a good time to reflect on <u>Mr. Roger's</u> <u>kindness technique</u>, as you will "look to them to be your helpers." Reassure your children that, as a family unit, we'll do everything we know of to make sure everyone in our family stays as healthy as possible and that, if we get sick, then we're going to do everything we know how to do to make sure we get better again.

"Most educational experts recommend setting aside time at the beginning of the day to set expectations and garner commitments from your children."



ADD FAMILY MEETINGS TO YOUR ROUTINE

- » Ensure everyone is listening and emotionally tuned-in
- » Empower your children to have voice in their learning and scheduled activities
- » Document commitments such as chores, projects or activities and monitor to see if they're done
- » Use family meetings to come up with a reward system: points earned for sticking to the schedule can be used to purchase rewards, like extra video game time

Tips for family meetings



PARENTS' GUIDE TO REMOTE LEARNING (International CREATING SPACES FOR LEARNING IN THE HOME)

Establishing dedicated learning spaces at home can help nurture your child's creativity, enhance their focus, and increase their motivation. When identifying and designing physical spaces, remember that your children will need to move around to be comfortable and engaged during the day.

A good recommendation is having <u>multiple</u> <u>designated areas for learning</u>. These designated learning spaces can include:

» An area where your children can be creative with everyday items found in your home. This area where children can make things is often called a "makerspace." Ideally, a makerspace has room for children to leave out their works-in-progress over several days or weeks without getting in your way.



- » A quiet reading and writing space where your children can get comfortable reading a good book, drawing, or completing a writing activity with minimal distractions.
- » A technology zone where your children have a dedicated device to connect virtually with their extended families, teachers, and classmates. This area should be located within easy viewing distance, so you can monitor your child's learning activities and online interactions.
- » An outdoor and physical activity area so your children can get some exercise, breathe some fresh air, enjoy game-based activities, and get the wiggles out!

In addition to planning for physical learning spaces, it's just as important to plan for virtual spaces for learning. Your child's school may have identified an online collaborative space where they will meet with their teachers and classmates. Yet, there may be times when you want to learn alongside your child or provide additional online experiences. Don't be afraid to set up accounts for online learning resources that support your child's specific interests.



TIPS FOR DESIGNING LEARNING SPACES

- » Let your kids be involved in choosing the location and designing the space
- » Decorate boxes from online purchases to use as organizers for art supplies, pens and activity packets
- » Make sure your remote learning space has good ergonomics for your child. If there is a lot of online learning, use a mouse!
- » Create zones for physical activities: both indoors and out

More tips for learning spaces

When creating learning spaces in your home, take the time to think about how you can encourage good technology habits.

- » <u>Ergonomics matter</u>! Encourage your children to use chairs that let their feet rest on the floor, and make sure monitors and screens are placed at eye-level.
- » Staring at screens all day can be exhausting for adults and children. Teach your kids about the <u>20-20-20 rule</u>. Prevent eye strain by taking a break every 20 minutes to look at an object about 20 feet away for 20 seconds.
- » Make sure you and your children take physical breaks too. Short stretching or movement games like <u>GoNoodle</u> help refresh your body and mind.

When you're taking a movement break, don't forget to leverage the outdoors—it's one of the best learning spaces of all! If you have a backyard, a park, or a place to take your children hiking, then incorporate that into your weekly schedule. Look for opportunities to tie what your children are learning online with the real world. For example, pointing out simple machines outside or finding examples of area and perimeter while taking a walk. If you want more ideas on keeping your kids active, <u>check</u>. <u>out this resource</u>.





PARENTS' GUIDE TO REMOTE LEARNING DEVICES FOR LEARNING

Although some school districts are supplying devices for students to use at home, many families are finding that they don't have enough for everyone to work, study, and play.

If you are evaluating a new device purchase, consider the following:

» Will the device be able to access legacy learning tools that districts rely on for remote learning?

For instance, Apple macOS and Microsoft Windows devices can support still-used Adobe Flash resources, but mobile devices running iPadOS, iOS, and Android will not be able to access them. Chromebooks can support Flash-based materials, but you will need to go through additional device set-up to access the resources.

» Does it meet the multi-tasking needs for remote learning?

Will your children be able to participate in a video conference while also completing an assignment or project? In these unsettled times, it seems prudent to buy the cheapest device possible, but that may cause frustration when your child is trying to multitask across multiple browser tabs and applications.



» How old is your child today and how will they be using the device in four years? Think about the future use of your machine as your child grows. Investing a little bit more on processing power, system memory, and system storage will give them the tools they need to learn well into the future.

» Does the device have the operating system capabilities and the processing power for video and photo editing, productivity, or programming?

If you have children that want to develop their technical or artistic skills, you may want to consider a higher-end device to support advanced coding and multimedia production.

Finally, your family will be using the device you purchase now for a longer time than your children will be learning remotely. There are a wide variety of personal computers with Intel® Core™ processors from lightweight notebooks through desktop creativity and gaming PCs that can meet the collaboration, communication, and creativity needs of children, parents, and educators. Please refer to How to Choose the Right Device for Learning guide if you want to learn which computer is best for your child. Also, to help locate low-cost internet in your area, take a look at <u>everyoneon</u>.

PARENTS' GUIDE TO REMOTE LEARNING (International Concernments) Guide to Remote Learning (Internationa

As your family develops a remote learning routine, be sure to balance online learning with other activities such as reading, free-time play, board games and puzzles, physical activities, and family socializing. Common Sense Media has an excellent <u>guide</u> on deciding how much screen time is appropriate for your child when learning has gone online.

With more devices entering your home, it's a good time to make sure that your cybersecurity efforts are strong. Some initial steps you can take include:

- 1. Make sure you change the default factory settings on your wireless router;
- 2. Create strong passwords (more on that <u>here</u>); and,
- 3. Keep device software updated.

Stay alert! Phishing is an attempt to trick you into accessing a malicious website that resembles a legitimate website, such as your bank, a retailer, or government agency. Cyberthieves may craft very convincing emails in order to steal your passwords or personal information. The most common way to be phished is by email, but you can also receive phishing messages by text (SMS).

You are in close quarters and your kids are watching you. Now is a great time to model positive technology use. In addition to online safety practices, you can:

» Show respect. Watch what you say and how you say it—especially online where others can't read your body language.

- » Take screen breaks and put your phone down during family meetings and mealtimes.
- » Show patience when your child is engaged with remote learning activities, especially if they are using an unfamiliar tool.
- » Address negative behavioral issues with empathy. Take steps to correct them in the future.
- » Pick your battles. If your child completes their assigned school work and wants to watch online videos, allow them some space for less-educational entertainment.

ONLINE SAFETY FOR REMOTE LEARNING

- » Set up parental controls through your internet provider and on the device's operating system
- » Teach your kids the value of strong passwords and not to share them with anyone except you
- » Be aware. Don't allow your child to use Private or Incognito mode

More online safety tips

PARENTS' GUIDE TO REMOTE LEARNING Intel MEETING YOUR CHILD'S SPECIAL EDUCATION NEEDS

Every child has unique needs. As a parent, you are likely grappling with the specific needs of remote learning for your child. For families of students with differing abilities, remote learning can present additional challenges. Parents, family members, and other trusted adults can play important roles in helping these children better navigate this time away from school.

When routines are changed abruptly, this can be hard on anyone—but perhaps more so for children with differing abilities. When children come to rely on consistency and predictability, changes as significant as this may result in unfamiliar behaviors and responses.

It's important for all kids, but especially for those with differing abilities, to follow a schedule that's similar to their regular school day as much as possible. If your child typically starts their day with a morning meeting, followed by reading and then speech therapy, for example, stick to that itinerary as much as possible (while also making sure to follow their usual sleep, wake, meal and snack times).

Here is some information that may help you advocate for and help your child with differing abilities.

If my child has a learning difficulty, how can I make remote learning work for them?

As teachers make the move to online learning, it's important to remember that a "one size fits all" approach may not be the best for your child. If you see that your child is anxious or struggling, try to pinpoint the cause. Perhaps you notice unwanted behaviors whenever your child has to type learning responses, or when they are required to sit and watch an instructional video. Try to think about how your child learns best—maybe they could record a video response instead of typing, or do a hands-on activity that incorporates movement instead of watching a video. You are your child's best advocate! Consider reaching out to your child's teacher to explore alternatives best suited to their unique learning style.





When schools close, are they still required to provide special education?

Yes. Many districts have already put these plans into place. Schools are required to provide assistive technology tools or other supports that your child may have been using. For more insight, watch this informational webinar from the U.S. Department of Education.

What if my child misses services that are in their IEP?

Many schools are still figuring out how they will deliver make-up services. In the meantime, reach out to your child's support team. What occupational therapy exercises can they recommend? How can you integrate speech therapy while playing a game with your child? Would they be willing to deliver therapy virtually? This video on Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) and COVID-19 is a useful resource to better understand your child's rights.

What if the remote learning content seems to be below the level of work they were doing in the classroom?

Perhaps your child is not being challenged enough and needs some brain twisters to keep them engaged. You might consider supplementing their remote learning with an online "<u>escape room</u>" game, a <u>maker challenge</u>, or <u>free class sessions</u> from top universities.

This <u>resource from Austin ISD</u> is filled with additional links to help you address your child's individual learning needs.



SUPPORTING A CHILD WITH DIFFERING ABILITIES

- » Look to your school for communication about how they plan to support children with special education plans (IEP and 504 Plans)
- Contact your child's support team to discuss how they can provide support services remotely
- » Tie learning into movement with indoor and outdoor physical activities
- » Provide your child with choices when selecting an activity to complete
- » Offer brain breaks and calming activities throughout the day

More special education resources

PARENTS' GUIDE TO REMOTE LEARNING Intervention (Intervention) REMOTE LEARNING FOR YOUR ELEMENTARY CHILD

Children in elementary school have unique learning needs. As you begin remote learning with a younger child, consider how the decisions you make can best support both their learning as well as their socialemotional development.

When establishing a new routine for your elementary age child, consider their level of development. Younger children will be more successful when offered shorter, diverse activities that engage them through hands-on learning. The following sample schedules can be used as a starting point for finding a routine that works for your own family. Post a copy of the schedule where everyone can see it. For children who are just learning to read, consider adding images or icons.

<u>10 Things to Consider When Setting Up</u> <u>Remote Learning for Elementary Age Learners</u>

Making a New Home Routine Younger Elementary Schedule

Upper Elementary Schedule



Supporting your Elementary School Child in an Era of Uncertainty

News of the Coronavirus is everywhere, from your TV, to news alerts on your phone or commercials played while you're streaming music. You may be wondering how to reassure your young child and protect them from information they can't yet fully understand. Don't be afraid to talk about the virus, because not addressing the situation at all can actually make kids worry more. Listen to your child's questions and attempt to answer them as honestly as you can-even if the answer is, simply, "I don't know." Be reassuring and use this as an opportunity to reinforce good hygiene habits like hand washing and coughing into your sleeve. When in doubt, talk it out! Let your child know that you are there to answer their questions about the virus and the current world situation. The following websites have more information about talking to young children about Coronavirus:

Talking to Kids About the Coronavirus

Practice the Three R's: Reassurance, Routine and Regulation

Helping Kids Cope





It's a Partnership: Parents and Elementary Children as Co-creators of Learning

Young children will, by their very nature, require a larger amount of your time and energy when it comes to supporting remote learning. How can you work collaboratively to create norms, goals and expectations for learning at home? What activities and tasks can you and your child complete together? Coming up with new projects and a variety of activities can be a challenge — below are links to several resources that can help you get started.

RESOURCES FOR ELEMENTARY AGE CHILDREN

- » <u>10 Low-Cost Cooperative Activities for</u> <u>Families</u>
- » Idea Starter- Scavenger Hunts
- » <u>Coding & Making Resources for</u> <u>Elementary Kids</u>
- » <u>Ten Age-Appropriate Chores for Your</u> <u>Kids</u>
- » <u>Reading and Writing Activities for</u> <u>Elementary Kids</u>

PARENTS' GUIDE TO REMOTE LEARNING Intel Control of the Control of

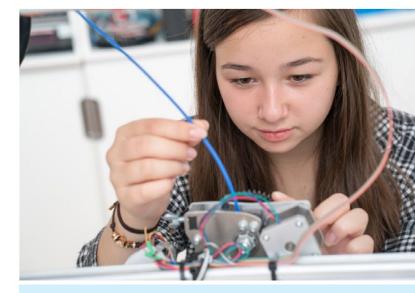
Success for middle school children begins with establishing a daily routine. Keeping your young teen's wake-up, meal, and bedtimes consistent will provide a sense of stability and comfort for them (and for you). Routines also provide parents and caregivers scheduled opportunities to support children as they complete schoolwork and new household chores.

It's important to engage your teen in the routine-creation process. Include their input on schedules, work locations, and household chores to provide a sense of ownership that teens crave—and lay the groundwork for intrinsic motivation. Remember: positive discussions about responsible decisionmaking leading to responsible actions are good lessons for lifelong learning success.

Every family is unique and special, so designing a routine that best fits your child's needs and learning style is key. Check out this variety of sample schedules and customize one to your liking. You can either make them digital to share electronically or print a hard copy for each family member, ensuring that expectations are clear.

Visual Sample Schedule

Middle School Schedule



CHILL TIME ACTIVITES FOR TEENS AND TWEENS

- » Listening to Music
- » Meditation and Breathing Exercises
- » Folding Paper Origami
 - More activity ideas



Supporting Your Middle School Child in an Era of Uncertainty

Middle school children are often tuned into social media, so they will likely be very aware of what is going on. Make sure to check in with your child and answer any questions they may have. This will help you to determine what they know and correct any misperceptions they might have. Acknowledging anxiety and worries can help. This is a good time to get on trusted websites with your middle school child to learn about the virus and how to prevent infection. Here are other useful resources with advice for parents:

Five Coping Skills Teens Need to Know

Talking to Your Kids about the Coronavirus

How to Talk to Your Child

Why Do We All Have to Stay Home?



EVENING FAMILY TIME IDEAS

- » Host a family game night
- » Take a virtual field trip together
- » Attend a streaming concert

- » Host an esports competition
- » Work on family puzzles
 - Family time activities for middle schoolers





It's a Partnership: Parents and Middle Schoolers as Co-creators of Learning

Many middle school-age children already feel comfortable using technology tools such as word processors, spreadsheets, collaborative photo apps, and even some coding programs. Take this opportunity to tap into your child's inner genius and let them create a passion project that truly interests them. A child who spends a lot of time drawing, making DIY projects, taking selfies, and texting with friends can now take these skills and put them into academic practice with a growth mindset visionary dream board. This empowers your child to visually represent their best selves and map out their creative learning pathways of how to attain (or create) their potential future careers and goals.

This may be a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for you to learn more about your child's passions, interests, and learning styles. Here are three questions to ask to start this dialogue:

- » What are you most interested in learning about while we are home together?
- » What do you love to do that I may not know about as a parent?
- » What does learning success look like to you and how does it make you feel?

Time at home can also be a great opportunity for your middle schooler to make a positive impact on others while learning from home. Here are three ideas to get started:

- » Write an email to an elected official about a cause you believe in;
- » Make a balanced meal for your family; and,
- » Create chalk art with positive messages for others.





RESOURCES FOR YOUR MIDDLE SCHOOL CHILD

- » Ten Age-Appropriate Chores for Your Kids
- » Art Ideas and Online Resources for Middle Schoolers
- » Family Time Activity Ideas
- » Reading and Writing Activities for Middle Schoolers
- » <u>Middle School Math and Science</u> <u>Resources</u>

A Balanced Approach to Active and Engaged Learning Activities For Middle Schoolers

It's amazing what young people can do with simple found objects such as paper towel rolls, crayons, cardboard, or empty cereal boxes. All it takes is some imagination and the willingness to dream up new solutions. And they're not just being creative and having fun—many of these ideas can be used to demonstrate their learning. Try tapping into your teen's talents and have some fun. Who knows? Your child might find a new passion or hobby.

In addition to some creative time, your teen also needs quiet time to help refresh and refocus their mind. Incorporate blocks of time throughout the day for catching up on a book, meditating, doing a puzzle, or taking a nap. If calming down is difficult, explore some <u>guided</u> <u>meditation recordings</u> or apps. Some quiet time can help to relieve stress and anxiety while providing emotional rest.

Take advantage of your child's personal learning needs and allow them to become more independent yet offer guided suggestions to support their learning interests. Here is a list of age-appropriate activities for middle schoolers.

PARENTS' GUIDE TO REMOTE LEARNING (intel) REMOTE LEARNING FOR YOUR HIGH SCHOOL AGE CHILD

At this point, it may be difficult to keep track of what day it is now that everyone is at home. Take the time to plan a schedule with your high schooler that includes enough sleep with a healthy balance of work and selfcare. Use an online calendar app or print and hang a calendar that the entire family can see.



Remind teens that they control their time. Teens tend to revert back to old habits, so making sure that they practice good hygiene and go to bed at a reasonable hour ensures an easier transition when schools are back in session.

One silver lining of learning from home is that teenagers desperately need sleep. According to the National Sleep Foundation (NSF), a teen needs roughly nine hours of sleep a day. Lifestyle choices greatly impact the quality and amount of sleep they get. Take time to establish better sleeping habits with your child. More information can be found at <u>SleepFoundation.org</u>.

ESTABLISH A SCHEDULE THAT WORKS FOR EVERYONE

- » Color-coded schedule template
- » Khan Academy learning schedules
- » Simple learning schedule template



TALKING TO YOUR TEENAGER ABOUT THE CURRENT CRISIS

- » Five Coping Skills Teens Need to Know
- » How to Talk to Teens about the COVID-19 Virus
- » Why Do We All Have to Stay Home?

Supporting your High School Child in an Era of Uncertainty

High schoolers may be feeling a normal amount of anxiety or depression about the current situation. This is a good time to encourage them to practice mindfulness and other healthy habits. Regularly check in with your teens and ask them to share how they are feeling. Keeping news feeds at bay and doing light exercise can also help. So can <u>positive</u> <u>quotes and messages</u>. Support anxious teens by encouraging meditation, yoga, and/or regular exercise. <u>Here are some mindfulness</u> <u>resources</u>.

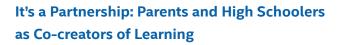
Your high school-age child will likely need coping support strategies to help them deal with this crisis, especially as they miss their daily social interactions and meetups with their peers. So now is a time where you—as a parent—can build a stronger emotional bond with your child. For instance, plan <u>virtual</u> <u>socials</u> to ensure they feel engaged and part of their community.



REMOTE LEARNING WITH YOUR HIGH SCHOOLER

- » Give them freedom to choose a project or skill to learn during their free time
- » Have your teen help younger family members with their work
- » Encourage teens to explore future careers and the steps necessary to achieving their goals

Tips for your high school student



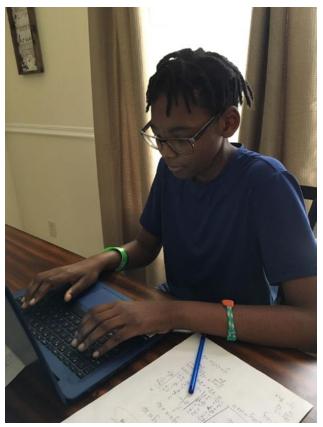
With everyone currently homebound, now is a perfect opportunity for your teenage child to unleash and explore their creative side. A child who spends a lot of time taking selfies can start a budding digital photography career. An organized child can put their interior designs skills to use by reorganizing furniture, decluttering kitchen drawers, organizing a toolbox, and tapping into a <u>free online student</u> <u>course</u>. Likewise, your excitable chatterbox may feel perfectly fine at home and is eager to start an educational YouTube channel for family and friends. Take advantage of your teenager's need to be more independent and offer useful suggestions. Here are more activities you can do at home to tap into your high schooler's passions.

Many high schoolers have worked hard to prepare for online exams such as the SATs and the Advanced Placement tests. Here are updates from those organizations about how they are managing these exams while everyone is learning at home.

<u>Updates on SAT Testing and College</u> <u>Admissions</u>

AP Testing Updates

Even though your high school-age student is a young adult, they still need you as a parent to be an active role model and participant in their daily learning journeys. They also need you to be an active listener and support system as they navigate these intensely challenging times.





SUPPORTING YOUR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT

- » <u>Reading and Writing Resources for High</u> <u>Schoolers</u>
- » <u>Science and Math Resources for High</u> <u>Schoolers</u>
- » Art Project Ideas and Resources
- » <u>Ten Age-Appropriate Chores for Your</u> <u>Kids</u>



PARENTS' GUIDE TO REMOTE LEARNING **ABOUT THE AUTHORS**





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With a career focused on transforming education through effective use of technology, Paige Johnson collaborates with a wide range of stakeholders in order to help school systems meet their educational goals. During her two decades with Intel, she worked with representatives of school systems around the world to make their learning environments better.

She has a passion for volunteering with innovative groups of leaders. She served on the Steering Committee for the National Assessment Governing Board on Technological Literacy, and on the International Society for Technology and Education (ISTE) advisory group for development of the NETs standards. As a former Chair of the Partnership for 21st Century Learning, she led a coalition that became the leading advocacy group focused on preparing students for the 21st century marketplace by emphasizing skills in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM).



NAOMI HARM



Naomi Harm is a K–12 women in leadership strategist, ed-tech influencer, and proud educator of 25 years. Her current teaching and learning focus includes mentoring girls and young women to pursue passion-driven STEM careers, designing hands-on coding, making and robotics learning experiences, coaching women in ed-tech leadership, and reimagining brain-friendly studentcentered classroom learning spaces.

As Chief Experience Officer of Innovative Educator Consulting, Naomi designs and facilitates emerging technology and STEM professional learning best practices. Her firm's researched-based professional learning solutions focus on transforming the instructional design needs of K12 educators, and how to create engaging learning experiences, while modeling how to build life-long learning confidence.





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Blanca Duarte is Chief Enablement Officer at LogicWing, a technology consulting and professional development company. For the last 20 years, she has worked in public and private education, helping organizations to use technology to live, work and learn. For the last 12 years, she has focused on helping districts to implement 1:1 learning environments and use cloud-based platforms to create community and deliver educational content.

Among her favorite projects is working with scientists to bring current topics, such as computation and nanotechnology, to life for scholars. Her passion lies in fostering community and building capacity.



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Vanessa Jones is a Technology Design Coach for the Austin Independent School District in Austin, Texas where she supports authentic, personalized and blended learning experiences that allow for continued growth, diversity, and innovative ways to transform technology. Vanessa is also facilitator for Code.org, a member of the CSedWeek and Hour of Code Advisory Committee, and helped to write the K12 Computer Science Framework. She is also a member of the 100Kin10 Diversifying the STEM Teacher Pipeline Project Team.

Vanessa's passion is in developing communities of computer science learners so that all students can have the opportunity to learn computer science basics, as she believes that computer science is the great equity equalizer. #CSforAll



DYANE SMOKOROWSKI

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Dyane Smokorowski is a 2019 National Teacher Hall of Fame Inductee, 2013 Kansas Teacher of the Year, and is currently serving as an Innovation and Technology Lead Teacher in the Andover Public Schools. Dyane believes in a project-based, student-centered classroom that helps students to build skills in communication, planning, research, and project implementation. Additionally, Dyane thrives on creating active and engaging teacher professional learning opportunities.

Above all, Dyane wants her students and teachers to develop a love for innovation, communication, and technology, but also to use that love and passion to advance their own futures, as well as that of the global community.



TOD JOHNSTON

in tod-johnston-85b22b14
 ✓ @JohnstonTod

With a background in K-8 classroom teaching, educational technology and parenting, Tod Johnston understands first-hand the challenges and the opportunities that families all around the world are encountering in the new reality.

Tod is a member of Clarity Innovation's creative team, using his strengths as a writer to author instructional materials: including both online and face-to-face professional learning courses for educators and studentfacing curriculum. Now, his job is blending seamlessly into his personal life more than ever, as he attempts to work, educate his children, and keep everyone happy and safe in the home!



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