



It can be a HUGE transition from sending your kiddos off to school each day to unexpectedly having them home all day, every day. The Coronavirus has definitely upset the fruit basket! As full time homeschooling families, we're getting questions on what do we do each day? Our first response is.. make it a goal to enjoy this unexpected opportunity to connect with your kids. Even amidst an unknown and potentially difficult time, there is good to be found. Most families find a general routine is helpful to all. Here is a fun chart we found with a suggested break down of a day... Some of us routinely homeschooling moms have pieced together ideas we use on days we're home and will seek to organize them to go along with this chart. We'd love to share them with anyone it might encourage!

Let's start with some outdoor suggestions...

**Outdoor Activities** Your kiddos are going to be SO EXCITED to be out of school!! It's great to maximize on their energy and make the most of transitioning to a new schedule. There is much to be learned in daily life, not always involving a textbook or worksheet, and we love to take advantage of these fun ways of learning.

- **Start seedling plants.**

*Whether herbs or plants to transfer to a garden later, starting your own garden from seeds can be fun and fascinating. Consider using clear containers so you can see the root system develop!*

<https://www.tomsofmaine.com/good-matters/thinking-sustainably/how-to-start-an-indoor-garden>

- **Prep outdoors for a garden**

*Yard work in the fresh air is great for the immune system and burning some energy!*

- **Nature Hikes**

*Fresh air is encouraged for the immune system. Consider a hike. Some of our families' favorite locations include: Talcott Mtn, Sessions Woods, Roaring Brook, Reservoir Hikes, Rails to Trails, Burr Pond and more. If you'd like to make it more academic in nature consider having the kids create a nature journal, collecting samples, identifying them, writing more info at home about them.*

<https://rhythmsoplay.com/get-outside-connect-create-nature-journal-notebook/>

- **Yard cleanup**

All those wet leaves, broken branches, and misc stuff from the winter can be spiffed up in no time. A great family project.

- **Learn a new outdoor skill...**

*Bike riding, scootering, rollerblading, heel wheels, jumping rope, and more. Being outdoors is great for the immune system. Great for expending energy. And great to combat cabin fever!*

- **Bird and animal scavenger hunt**

*Spring is coming and with it the birds and animals come back exploring. CT is full of a variety of mammals, birds and amphibians. Challenge the kids to identify new ones each day. This resource here is full of options to learn more about the animals all around us here in CT.*

<https://www.exploringnature.org/db/view/Connecticut-Habitats-Mammals-Birds-Amphibians-Reptiles>

- **Create your own bird feeders.**

*Got an old shoe or some wooden spoons or a used milk carton? Here are some creative ways to make your own birdfeeders – and encourage finding new birds in your yard!*

<https://www.diyncrafts.com/3515/home/23-diy-birdfeeders-will-fill-garden-birds>

## COVID-19 DAILY SCHEDULE

Before 9:00am	Wake up	Eat breakfast, make your bed, get dressed, put PJ's in laundry
9:00-10:00	Morning walk	Family walk with the dog Yoga if it's raining
10:00-11:00	Academic time	NO ELECTRONICS Sudoku books, flash cards, study guide, Journal
11:00-12:00	Creative time	Legos, magnetiles, drawing, crafting, play music, cook or bake, etc
12:00	Lunch	
12:30PM	Chore time	A - wipe at kitchen table and chairs B - wipe at door handles, light switches, and desk tops C - Wipe both bathrooms - sinks and toilets
1:00-2:30	Quiet time	Reading, puzzles, nap
2:30-4:00	Academic time	ELECTRONICS OK Ipad games, Prodigy, Educational show
4:00-5:00	Afternoon fresh air	Bikes, Walk the dog, play outside
5:00-6:00	Dinner	
6:00-8:00	Free TV time	Kid showers x3
8:00	Bedtime	All kids
9:00PM	Bedtime	All kids who follow the daily schedule & don't fight