







MAY 2016 Kindergarten Countdown Calendar

Sun	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Practice the ABC Song with your child	2  Pink Week Look for things that are pink this week	3 Read a story to your child, and then have your child "read" the story back to you	4 Play a matching game with your child	5 Have your child draw a picture of spring 	6 Have your child name letters found on cereal boxes, cans, signs, etc.
8 Play a card game like <i>Go Fish</i> or <i>Uno</i>	9 Have your child count the trees in your yard or on your block	10 Work together with your child on a puzzle 	11 Have your child practice printing by tracing the letters of his/her name	12 Practice shoe tying together	13 Loving and modeling skills to your child is the most important
15 Take a walk together and look for signs of spring	16 Compare and contrast with your child things that happened yesterday with today	17 Using a book cover, help your child find the letters in his/her name	18 Cut off the tops of carrots, help your child put them in water, and watch the tops grow 	19 Teach your child your phone number	20 Have your child count the number of steps from his/her bedroom to other rooms in the house
22 Find a quiet spot in the library and read books together 	23 Play counting games with your child like, "How many windows are in this room?"	24 Have your child use their fingers to write letters in shaving cream on a tray or plate	25 Continue reviewing your phone number with your child	26 Learn this fun letter sounds song together: tinyurl.com/hezhy3n	27 Count objects around the house together (frames, rugs, etc.) and order them greatest to least
29 Do finger plays together like "Where is Thumbkin" or "The Itsy Bitsy Spider"	30 Memorial Day Read a book to your child and have them retell the story to a stuffed animal	31 Practice the ABC song tinyurl.com/p987p2z	Did you know the Billings Public Library offers many great FREE activities for children throughout the week? LIBRARY HOURS Monday-Thursday 10 am-9 pm Friday 10 am – 6 pm Saturday 10 am – 5 pm Sunday 1 pm – 5 pm (Closed on Sundays after Memorial Day) 		

JUNE 2016 Kindergarten Countdown Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Practice saying your phone number and address with your child	2 Before completing a story, ask your child what he/she thinks will happen	3 Last Day of School Have your child find things around the house that start with different sounds that you prompt	4 Bake cookies together and have your child count the cookies on the pan
5 Sort items into groups with your child and have them tell you which groups have more and less	6 Practice hopping on one foot and throwing and catching a ball together	7 Have your child sort items like Legos or buttons and explain the grouping system	8 Find a new letter sound songs to sing together tinyurl.com/hezhy3n	9 Have your child practice printing by tracing the letters of his/her name	10 Work with your child on a puzzle	11 Help your child learn to tie his/her shoes 
12 Compare and contrast things that happened yesterday with today with your child	13 Practice the fun letter sounds song together: tinyurl.com/hezhy3n	14 Have your child practice folding their clothes with you 	15 Have your child find the letters of their name in a book	16 Attend Play Date at the Zoo! 4-8 pm A free event with free food, face painting, games, and community resource information	17 Have your child find things around your house that are square, circles, and rectangles	18 Practice the ABC song tinyurl.com/p987p2 
19 Have your child practice words that rhyme 	20 Play a game together such as "Memory" or "Go Fish"	21 Go outside and help your child write his/her name using sidewalk chalk	22 Play "Simon Says" together using large motor movements	23 Look through old magazines and have your child cut out all of the circles and squares	24 Make a picnic lunch with your child and find a spot outside to eat	25 Read a story to your child, pointing to each word as you read
26 Together make a collage of summer pictures	27 Count together how many days before your child will start school	28 Have your child tell you in order 3-5 things they do to get ready for bed each night	29 Go outside and kick a ball around together 	30 Have your child write his/her name outside in sand or dirt with a finger or a stick	Help your child communicate needs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have your child practice using an I-Statement multiple times a day • Set up simple conflicts with a stuffed animal and have your child determine how to solve problems 	


JULY 2016 Kindergarten Countdown Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div>Social and Emotional Skills are also essential for school success.</div> <div>Help your child develop EMPATHY:<ul style="list-style-type: none">Practice recognizing facial expressions with your childModel empathy with your childAsk your child to imagine how someone else feelsModel how to identify and regulate emotions and behavior</div> <div></div>					<div>1</div> <div>Continue helping your child learn how to tie his/her shoes</div>	<div>2</div> <div>Have your child invite a friend over to play</div>
<div>3</div> <div>Red, White & Blue Week: Look for things that are these colors and discuss the flag</div>	<div>4</div> <div>Independence Day</div>	<div>5</div> <div>Help your child continue to learn your phone number and address</div>	<div>6</div> <div>Practice rhyming words with your child</div>	<div>7</div> <div>Put on some music and have a dance party!</div>	<div>8</div> <div>Make different shapes with play dough</div>	<div>9</div> <div>Visit a Spray Ground or Wading Pool at a local park</div>
<div>10</div> <div>Sing favorite children's songs together</div>	<div>11</div> <div>Help your child plan and save money for a special new school item</div>	<div>12</div> <div>Practice the fun letter sounds song together: tinyurl.com/hezhy3n</div>	<div>13</div> <div>Have your child spell his/her name using magnetic letters</div>	<div>14</div> <div>Sort items in groups and talk about most and least</div>	<div>15</div> <div>Help your child continue to learn your phone number and address</div>	<div>16</div> <div>Count down the number of days before school starts</div>
<div>17</div> <div>Make a list together of what makes a good friend</div>	<div>18</div> <div>Check out an audio book at the library for your child</div>	<div>19</div> <div>Look at different words and find the starting sound</div>	<div>20</div> <div>Make a "Family Favorites" list including, movies, food, etc.</div>	<div>21</div> <div>Have your child draw pictures of their favorite summer activity</div>	<div>22</div> <div>Have your child find things that begin with the letter T</div>	<div>23</div> <div>Use a ruler to measure leaves on plants and trees together</div>
<div>24</div> <div>Have your child retell a story (first, then, last)</div>	<div>25</div> <div>Practice rhyming words with your child</div>	<div>26</div> <div>Drive by the school your child will attend and discuss what your daily routine will be</div>	<div>27</div> <div>Practice holding a pencil and writing lower case letters</div>	<div>28</div> <div>Have your child call a relative who lives out of town and catch up</div>	<div>29</div> <div>Practice the ABC song tinyurl.com/p987p2z</div>	<div>30</div> <div>Practice tracing numbers 1-10</div>
<div>31</div> <div>Yellow Week Find objects that are yellow this week</div>	<div> Spray Grounds: Terry Park, North Park, Highland Park, and Castlerock Park DAILY 10 am – 8 pm Wading Pools: Pioneer Park & Hawthorne Park DAILY noon – 6 pm</div>					

August 2016 Kindergarten Countdown Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Start practicing the a.m. school routine—getting up, brushing teeth, etc.	1 Help your child understand the difference between first names, last names, and nicknames	2 Have your child pick out 2 books for read aloud today	3 Have your child draw a picture about what excites them about school	4 Have your child practice writing his/her name 	5 Review your phone number and address with your child	6 Practice the fun letter sounds song together: tinyurl.com/hezhy3n
7 Practice rhyming words with your child	8 Make different shapes with play dough 	9 Practicing adding with groups of pennies	10 Help your child identify starting sounds in words you say 	11 Practice the ABC song tinyurl.com/p987p2z 	12 Compare and contrast yesterday's events with today's	13 Find a place for a family hike 
14 Practice jump roping together outside	15 Identify as many opposites as you can together (in/out, etc.) 	16 Arrange alternate pick up plans with a relative or neighbor for unforeseen circumstances	17 Play a game like Uno or Go Fish together	18 Have your child draw a summary of some favorite summer memories	19 Find a "connect the dots" picture for your child to complete	20 Check out and read library books about going to school
21 Visit the playground of your child's school for a play time	22 Talk with your child about how he/she can be a good friend at school	23 Practice tracing numbers 1-10 	24 Pack your child's backpack together and talk about their upcoming first day	25 Billings Public Schools First Day of School 	26 Celebrate all of your summer hard work with a fun family activity!	27
2	29	30	31			

SEPTEMBER 2016 Kindergarten Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>"Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school—and themselves. Start building this habit in kindergarten so they learn right away that going to school on time, every day is important. Good attendance will help children do well in high school, college, and at work."</p> <p>--Attendanceworks.org</p>				1	2	3
4	 <p>NO SCHOOL</p>	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	<p>Middle Schools EARLY OUT</p>	21	<p>Elementary Schools EARLY OUT</p>	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	


OCTOBER 2016 Kindergarten Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Getting to school every day on-time is an important part of your child's longterm success: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lay out clothes and backpacks the night before Develop back-up plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbor, or another parent Avoid medical appointments and extended trips when school is in session 						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19 Elementary Schools EARLY OUT	20 BPS NO SCHOOL	21 BPS NO SCHOOL	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31 Halloween 					

NOVEMBER 2016 Kindergarten Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Elementary Parent/Teacher Conferences	3 Elementary Parent/Teacher Conferences	4 Elementary Parent/Teacher Conferences	5
6	7	8	9	10	11 Veteran's Day 	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22 Elementary EARLY OUT	23 BPS NO SCHOOL	24  BPS NO SCHOOL	25 BPS NO SCHOOL	26
27	28	29	30			

DECEMBER 2016 Kindergarten Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Even excused absences mean lost learning time at school. Try to make sure you schedule your family vacation days during school vacation days so your child benefits from being in school every day.</p>				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8 Middle Schools EARLY OUT	9 Middle Schools EARLY OUT	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23 BPS NO SCHOOL	24 Christmas Eve
25 Christmas Day 	26 BPS NO SCHOOL	27	28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve 