

Some Resources for Family Activities and Educational Fun

1. Free Art Classes

Dear Families,

As you likely already know, Thrive Art School closed down at the end of last year.

In light of the current COVID-19 situation and all schools being closed across WA state and possibly more states to follow, I would like to make our drawing instruction videos available for free to any families that need help with their home curriculum.

I have uploaded all of the Beginner, Intermediate and Parent Tip videos onto YouTube and made the videos publicly available for anyone to watch for free, without any ads.

The videos are all available on a YouTube channel at this link --

<http://bit.ly/ThriveArtSchool>

The step by step video lessons are geared for children age 5-12 years old. Supplies needed for the beginner lessons are: fine-tip pen, paper, markers. The intermediate lessons add watercolor and oil pastel.

Please feel free to share with anyone who may like to add art enrichment to their day, including school districts and other community groups.

Warmest wishes to you in these difficult times,
Theresa Harris
Founder, Thrive Art

2. Free Ivy-League online classes

<https://www.freecodecamp.org/news/ivy-league-free-online-courses-a0d7ae675869/?fbclid=IwAR2MTyFI22XHvjYGevHgcs1IT4IBWJwqO1EhKg8g395oz4w0e2EB3oGjzFY>

3. Just because we are banned from socializing doesn't mean we have to become couch potatoes! Let's de-stress, stay healthy and take a break from yelling at our kids by having some fun with them! We are implementing gym time on Tuesday and Thursday after lunch, so I hope you can join us in solidarity!
 - a. See who can do the most sit down/stand ups in 1 minute
 - b. Bear walk or frog hop around the house for 30 seconds (crawling or hopping on hands and feet)

- c. Now flip over and crab walk backwards for 30 seconds
- d. Glute bridge: let one kid crawl under your legs each time you lift up (1 min)
- e. Running on water....running in place as quickly as you can so you don't sink into the water! (30 sec)

Are they going to put us to shame??? Probably....but, hey, we have to let them win sometimes!

4. 150+ Educational Shows on Netflix - Homeschool Hideout

<https://homeschoolhideout.com/educational-shows-on-netflix/?fbclid=IwAR17mclI4vdmmCxko-PcwnvLVVzxHFSjmSNNtolMWwZde75DhWzZVOGJsIg>

5. Catholic Resource Library

I just wanted to remind you that as subscribers you have access to a WHOLE LIBRARY of Catholic Activities for Families. From melty beads, to coloring pages, watercolor, to cross stitch there are lots of ideas in there!

To take a look around, just head here: <https://catholicprouts.com/catholic-family-resour...>

The Password is: AVEMARIA

AND! I just added something new! The Catholic ABC Coloring pages have been updated and added to the library. They are SO MUCH better than what I was offering before and they are still 100% free.

6. Something for Science Lovers

And check out these videos from **The Exploratorium** in San Francisco. There are a bunch of exhibit videos that are basically demonstrations—super-cool to watch. . . <https://www.exploratorium.edu/video/collections/exhibits/all>

Plus Science Snacks, which allows kids to watch experiments they can duplicate at home, if they want. .

. <https://www.exploratorium.edu/video/collections/science-snacks/all>

Or videos by subject area . . . <https://www.exploratorium.edu/video/subjects>

Or even videos on creating art using science <https://www.exploratorium.edu/video/collections/arts-at-exploratorium>.

To add to the list, here's the "en ligne" tour for the Louvre . .

. <https://www.louvre.fr/en/visites-en-ligne>.

This virtual tour of the Pergamon Museum in Berlin is super cool, although it's hard to tell what you're looking at. I suggest having the Googlemaps window open, but also opening another tab with the museum website:

<https://www.smb.museum/en/museums-institutions/pergamonmuseum/home.html>

On the website, look under "Collections and Research"

Quickly read "About the collections" because it explains the 3 main groups. They have Greco-Roman artifacts, artifacts from the Near-East including unbelievable mosaics from Babylon during the rule of Nebuchadnezzar II, and they have an outstanding collection of Islamic art, including the walls of a palace.

Then look at "Collection highlights" for the names of the most famous things you'll see.

Below is another website that was also extremely helpful in understanding some of the exhibits. In fact, looking through these "Stories" first might be the best way to go.

<https://artsandculture.google.com/partner/pergamonmuseum-staatliche-museen-zu-berlin>

Here's the actual visual tour on Google Maps.

https://www.google.de/maps/@52.5213001,13.3967286,2a,75y,88.55h,95.57t/data=!3m6!1e1!3m4!1skw9d19FkhNESwCnX_1p6Zw!2e0!7i13312!8i6656?hl=de

Something for everyone!

7. More Virtual Tours - More to do at home with kids!

https://people.com/travel/stuck-at-home-these-12-famous-museums-offer-virtual-tours-you-can-take-on-your-couch/?utm_source=facebook.com&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=social-share-article&utm_content=20200313&utm_term=7728056&fbclid=IwAR1afK84xn4MnhxwAzK0iBoBknwvfmQPW4KmxldyvkcS7IT4xobw6jcc0uE

8. Mercatornet has some excellent suggestions for family activities and good reading. Here they are:

https://www.mercatornet.com/family_edge/view/25-screen-free-educational-activities-for-kids/23416

<https://www.mercatornet.com/bookreviews/view/my-children-finished-their-schoolwork.-now-what/23422>

Spread virtue, not the virus! Wishing you and your families good health and fun times together!