HANG TIME

FEBRUARY 2019



FIGHT FOR THE HEART

Communicate in a style that gives the relationship value.

Find the Artist. This month, play together in your child's chosen art form. It could be photography, dance, astronomy, any number of things. Make a date to fuel, explore, and connect with your child's unique creativity. You may be surprised to find your own inner artist, too! If you have older kids, this is a great time to discover how they like to be creative!



WIDEN THE CIRCLE
Pursue strategic relationships for your kids.

Send a Card. Break out the crayons and the markers, because February 7th is National Send a Card Day. Have each person in your family choose one person they would like to send a card to, then either decorate a paper card or create one in a design program and print it out. Because no matter your age or technology-proficiency, nothing says you matter to me like getting a homemade card via snail mail.



CREATE A RHYTHM

Increase the quantity of quality times you spend together.

Pioneer Night. Sometimes the loss of electricity due to the weather makes for the best childhood memories: eating all the ice cream before it melts, huddling together around the warmth of a fire, sleeping in the same room to stay warm. But why wait for a snowstorm? Pick a night once a week or a couple times a month to have a "Pioneer Night." Turn off all the lights and electronics. Play games, eat dinner, and read by candlelight.



IMAGINE THE END

Focus your priorities on what matters most.

Brighten Your Neighborhood. We all want our kids to grow up to be kind and to make the world a brighter place. This month, pick a day and one way to do just that—in your own neighborhood. Take a walk around your subdivision, apartment complex, or nearby assisted-living facility. Leave a note, a flower, or a painted rock on a few doorsteps. You never know how a small gesture from a stranger may brighten someone's day.



JUST FOR YOU: MAKE IT PERSONAL Put yourself first when it comes to personal growth.

Solo Date. Set aside a couple hours this month to take yourself on a solo artist date. Do things like capture the coolest city-shot with your smartphone's camera, roam around a hobby or craft store and buy a kit to try something new, or splurge on a concert ticket. Notice how you feel in the hours and days following your "date." Then, be intentional to set aside a couple of hours each month (or even week!) to fuel your inner artist.

