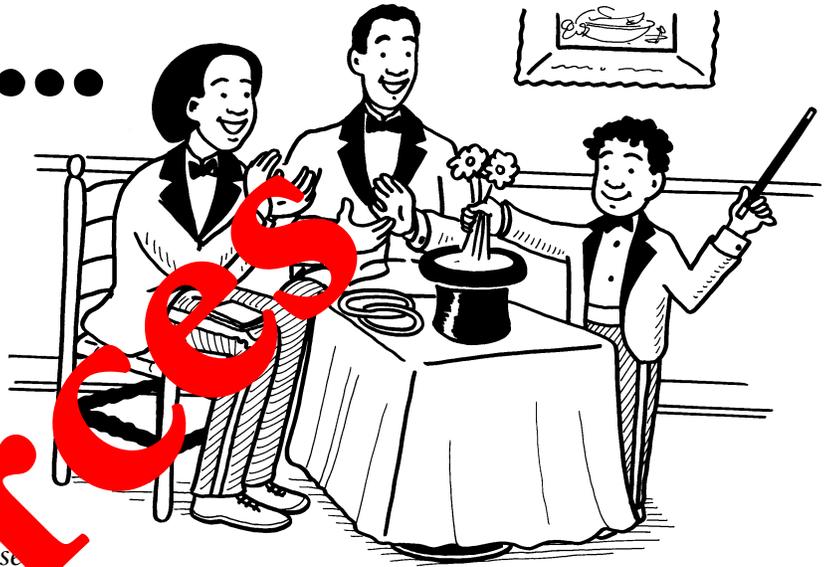


All Right... Family Night!



Activities that involve the whole family can build bonds in the busiest of homes. Plus, the ideas on these pages will help your children practice reading, math, learn about your family history, discover other cultures, and more.

Consider these 10 suggestions for fun and memorable evenings at home.

1. Learn something new. Show your youngsters that learning is a lifelong process by discovering a new activity or skill together. For example, get a book of magic tricks from the library. Gather some of the materials mentioned in the book, such as playing cards, hats, and scarves. Then, have each child learn to perform for the rest of the family.

2. Share family history. Dig up your family's old photographs and pass them around. Your children may not recognize some people in the photos and will probably ask lots of questions: "Who's that with Grandma?" "Where was that picture taken?" "What are they wearing?" Let your youngsters



help you label the back of each photo with as many details about the people and situations as you can remember.

3. Plan game night. Consider making game night a regular event each month. Pull out several board or card games. Be sure to look in closets and underneath beds for long-lost games! Starting with your youngest child, take turns picking a game to play. Instead of playing the same one repeatedly, try several different games so everyone has a chance to win. *Tip:* Add variety by borrowing games from friends and relatives.

4. Start a book club.

Ask each family member to choose a book. Then, find a comfortable place to read, such as on the floor with pillows. After 20 to 30 minutes of reading, discuss your favorite parts of the book. You might want to begin with questions, such as "Who's your favorite character in your book? Why?" When the discussion is finished, set a day and time to hold your next book club meeting. *Variation:* Have everyone read the same book, and then meet to discuss it.



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