Dear Ridgeway Families,

I have been thinking a lot this week about incorporating learning and home life. I know that so many families are juggling multiple responsibilities, so I wanted to give you some quick ideas to emphasize writing during this extended period at home.

1. Take 15 minutes to make writing supplies accessible for everyone. Have a shelf or corner of the kitchen cabinet where all family members can find scrap paper, markers, pens/pencils, stickers, sticky notes, whatever you have on hand.

2. Leave a note for another family member on a bed pillow, taped on the bathroom mirror, in a cereal box, etc. Ask a question to encourage them to write back.

3. Make a word search for someone else to solve.

4. Help your children write back to their pen pal. Have them include a picture they have colored or a homemade word search.

5. Keep shared lists in a visible/accessible location. This might be on the refrigerator door or an electronic shared note. Lists could be: grocery/shopping, fun things to do at home, a joy for each day. You could take a few minutes every day to have each family member add one item to the list.

6. Have each child decorate a themed paper calendar for the month of May, June, or July. Encourage the child to write something on each day’s space. Themes could be: signs of spring, exercise, books read, art projects, and more.

7. Use a notebook or stapled pages to journal every day. Encourage students to write about what they are doing and thinking. Someday, their grandchildren will thank you when they can read about 2020.

I hope this list gets you thinking about opportunities to write around your own home. Talk to your children and encourage them to be creative!
Each week specialists will highlight a resource from the district COVID website or share a non tech activity families can do for fun.

**Art:** Try out one of these 52 drawing challenges! [https://www.adventure-in-a-box.com/things-for-kids-to-draw/](https://www.adventure-in-a-box.com/things-for-kids-to-draw/)

**Counselor:** Tips to keep children healthy while school’s out: [Caring for Children](#) and [Helping Children Cope](#)

**Library/Media:** Mr. Morgan, Mrs. Munsterman, Luna and Thea are all missing you! With the extra time at home, Luna has been pretending to travel the high seas. You can write a story about her adventures! What kind of treasure would a guinea pig pirate look for? Who would she meet along the way?

**Music:** I am certainly missing being at Ridgeway and making music with the Ridgeway Rams! During your time at home check out the district’s musical choice board! Every two weeks the elementary music teachers in CPS will update a choice board on the Covid-19 resources webpage. This choice board will have many different enrichment activities for your student including some that are technology centered and some that are not. Here is the link to the first choice board… [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Nlxo2CPyp2KgB9hW1NhG0aYNJ5fHgL5ZKA7S000rRdQ/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Nlxo2CPyp2KgB9hW1NhG0aYNJ5fHgL5ZKA7S000rRdQ/edit)

One of the options on the choice board will always be something your school’s music teacher provides so I wanted to share with you some new videos I made on how to make instruments from recycled materials.

**Units A and B:** [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=einkkbMyV3rQ&t=172s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=einkkbMyV3rQ&t=172s)

**Unit C** (Making a practice Ukulele) [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iaYmFeKcwG8&t=534s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iaYmFeKcwG8&t=534s)

**PE:** [Let's go for a walk Bingo Challenge](#)

Hi everyone! I thought it would be fun to give this a try, weather permitting. Take care and I miss all of you so much!!

**News from Mr. Buckner:** Hey Ridgeway Families its Mr. Buckner your Home School Communicator. I hope everyone is doing well and I miss you all so much! I wanted to share a cool activity that you as a family can do. As you know, I am a huge sports fan and I love to play basketball. If you all have a basketball and hoop, you should try a game called knock-out. Here is the link for how to play it. This is a game that our students would play at recess. [https://safeshare.tv/x/C_0ccXOz2QI](https://safeshare.tv/x/C_0ccXOz2QI)

**News from Mrs. Pagoada:** Did you know that April is “Keeping America Beautiful Month?” Think of some great ideas about how we can take better care of our Earth. Then, use [Storyboard That](#) to display your ideas!
The Online Silent Auction will begin Monday, April 20 at noon CST and end Saturday, April 25 at 4pm CST. We encourage you to share the link with family and friends interested in supporting Ridgeway.

We recommend completing the following steps prior to April 20.

To participate, follow this link: www.32auctions.com/RWEFunday

- Click "View all items"
- You will be prompted to make an account. After making your account a verification email will be sent to your email. You must click on this email to verify your account. After checking your email return to the original link and log in.
- When you login it will say "request permission" to join auction. Your request will be approved ASAP by our committee.
- When approved you will click on items to place a bid. All winning bids will receive an email following the close of the auction. You will be required to pay all invoice items online using a credit or debit payment. Delivery will be by mail if possible or porch drop off in Columbia only.

If you have trouble with this process, please contact Danielle Johnson by phone, text or email (573) 303-2160 or Dajohnso@cpsk12.org or Amanda Fues by phone, text or email (573) 289-6381 or amandasfues@gmail.com

Thank you for your patience and participation.