



## LPB Parents E-Newsletter June 2016

### **Never Too Late**

START saving now for your child's success later. START is a state savings program to help with a child's future costs for vocational, technical, or college education. People related to or with custody of a child can regularly contribute to a START account for each child, and the State will contribute a matching portion to each child's account. Either the account owner or the child must be residing in Louisiana when the account is opened. Even small deposits can grow significantly over the years. The funds can be used for expenses to attend in-state or out-of-state educational institutions. For details, check out the [FAQs](#) and other information at <http://www.startsaving.la.gov/savings/index.jsp>.

### **Countdown To Summer**

Do you want to create a summer of exploration and learning for your children? Download our ["get ready for summer"](#) checklist, bookmark and activity booklet, and check out our tips and ideas for a summer filled with fun learning!

### **Daily Summer Learning Tips**

Don't worry, we've got you covered. You'll never run out of [fun learning activities](#) with daily ideas from LPB that you can use any day - or every day - of the week, all summer long! Also follow LPB Raising Readers on [Facebook](#).

### **Indoor Summer Activities: ODD SQUAD Printables**

Stuck for an idea on a rainy or hot summer day when it's best to stay indoors? Your kids will have fun, and hone their math skills, with [these PBS KIDS printables](#) from ODD SQUAD.

### **Outdoor Summer Projects: Garden Math**

PBS Parents contributor Jennifer Cooper shares some ideas for garden math projects to keep learning going all summer long, whether you have a few pots sitting on a window sill or a great big garden in your backyard. [Read more](#).

### **Recipe: Summer Chickpea Salad**

If you've ever planted a cherry tomato plant then you know that 'sun-kissed' bursts of goodness those plants give taste like summer. PBS Parents contributor Alice Currah's salad recipe calls for cherry tomatoes, which complement the garbanzo beans, cucumbers, and the light lemon mint vinaigrette. It's a very easy salad to pull together in



minutes upon harvesting and cleaning the cherry tomatoes from your garden. [Get the recipe.](#)

### **Fabulous Fathers: Children's Books for Father's Day**

Dads are great. They fix broken toys, sing silly songs, and open our eyes to the wonders of the world around us. But most of all, they give us lots of love. Celebrate the fabulous fathers in your life with [this selection of favorite books](#) for kids ages 0-9.

### **Father's Day Secret Message Cards**

Looking for a unique way to wish dad a happy Father's Day? How about making him a super secret spy code card! Children practice their math, spelling, and writing to create a coded message for dad to decipher. It's a totally cool and fun way to tell dad you love him! [Learn how.](#)

### **Father's Day Craft: Goodie Bags**

These goodie bags are so easy to make and can be filled with treats, notes, or any other kind of fun surprise for Dad! [Learn how.](#)

### **Just for Kids: ODD SQUAD**

Check out episodes of ODD SQUAD airing on PBS KIDS through June, and play along at home with the ODD SQUAD: Blob Chase App (\$1.99). In Blob Chase, kids can have fun practicing core math skills throughout each of the 75 levels of games. Kids (5-8) help to recover the blobs by using gadgets to add, subtract, halve or double passageways throughout Odd Squad headquarters or in spooky Blobsylvania. [Download the app.](#)