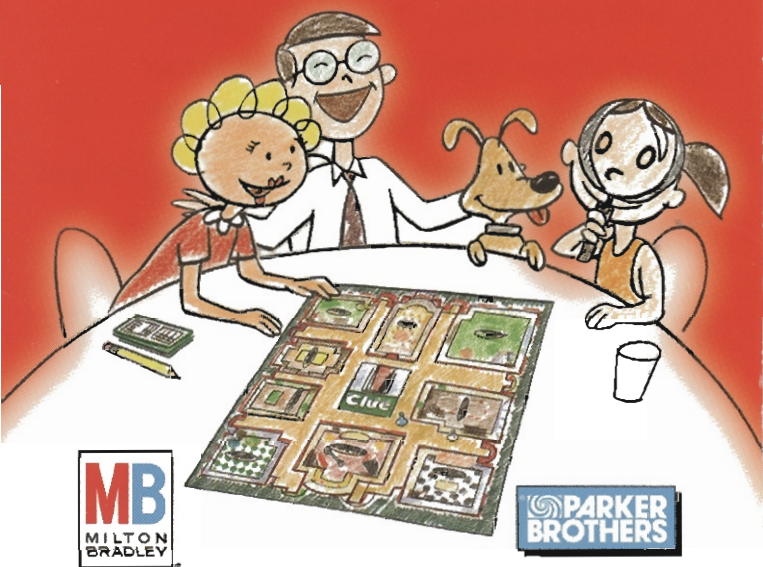




Plan a
Family
Game
Night








A Guide To Family Fun



Hey Parents:

Mix together kids and parents, take the phone off the hook, turn off the TV, bring out a board game and what do you have? An evening of fun, learning and laughter that brings all of you closer together. Sounds good? Then maybe you should be planning your own Family Game Night.

What is Family Game Night? It's a fun way to spend quality time together and create a family tradition that you and your kids will remember and cherish for years to come. Here's a fun recipe on how to maximize the time you have together:




-  *Mark your calendar one night each week to spend uninterrupted time with your kids.*
-  *Eat dinner together, clear the dinner dishes and clean off the table.*
-  *Resist falling into the same routine and get your family excited by pulling out your family's favorite board game.*
-  *Put a bowl of snacks on the table.*
-  *Let the games begin!*

This brochure will help you plan your own Family Game Night. Games offer a fun, exciting way to bring your family closer together. **Have Fun!**



What Will Family Game Night Do for Us?


Good question. It will ...


-  Give you quality fun time with your children.
-  Give you an opportunity to share a laugh together.
-  Help you foster a positive family child relationship.


"I like to play games with my family because we all sit down together and laugh and have fun."

Angela, age 13, Eldersburg, MD

Now, what will it do for the kids?

 **Social Interaction** - Gameplay allows your kids to learn from you and from each other. It encourages a sense of connectedness and respect among family members.

 **Learning** - Games are a learning tool. For instance, Clue[®] is good for learning deductive reasoning. Scrabble[®] is ideal for teaching math and spelling skills. Throw 'N Go[™] Jenga[®] is perfect for teaching hand-eye coordination.

 **Life Skills** - Games teach kids important life skills such as patience, concentration, teamwork and perseverance.







Everybody wins when a family plays a game together.

How Do I Get a Family Game Night Started?

Family Game Night can be as simple or as detailed as you and your children would like it to be.

Before you plan your Family Game Night, here are some things to think about:

-  Decide which night of the week will work best for your family.
-  You may want to include some friends and neighbors.
-  Select your family's favorite games.
-  Create a fun way to mark the calendar each week so that everyone will know when the next Family Game Night is!

"When we play games as a family, we call it a tournament, get out the card table and face each other instead of all facing the television."
Anita, mom, Iowa City, IA


Now it's time to throw in a favorite family snack ... you're well on your way to your first Family Game Night.



Once your family has selected a day for Family Game Night and the game(s) you'll be playing, you might want to consider some of these ideas to increase the fun:

 **Involve the kids in the planning – let them ...**

- pick the game(s)
- select the snack(s)
- choose teams
- invite guests

 **Take turns picking each week's snacks or games**

 **Keep a fun scoreboard**

- put each week's winner(s) on the refrigerator
- create a fun Family Game Night "crown"

 **Put reminder notes in the kids' lunchboxes**

- "Can't wait to see you tonight at Family Game Night"

 **Set up a multi-Family Game Night**




- rotate houses
- mix up the teams
- have a tournament

 **Add your own special touches**

What Games Should We Play?



When picking games for Family Game Night, you should consider:

-  **The age(s) of the kid(s) playing**
-  **Their specific interests**
-  **What games you liked to play as a kid**

To get you started on your own Family Game Night, here are some of America's favorite games to consider:

AGES	GAMES
6-8	Sorry!®, Monopoly® Jr., Clue® Jr., Scrabble® Jr.
8-10	Sorry!®, Clue®, The Game of Life®, Monopoly®, Throw 'N Go™ Jenga®
10-12	Scrabble®, Monopoly®, Yahtzee®, Clue®, Throw 'N Go™ Jenga®
Teenage	Scrabble®, Monopoly®, Throw 'N Go™ Jenga®

This brochure was compiled with input from Evelyn Petersen (www.askevelyn.com), an early childhood educator, author and award-winning parenting columnist. The National Parenting Center (www.tnpc.com) also assisted in developing this brochure. TNPC provides child-rearing guidance and information from America's foremost parenting experts.