



March 16, 2020

Dear Parents, Faculty, Staff, and Students,

The coronavirus pandemic is forcing widespread school closures in the United States and the world. This afternoon, Oklahoma joined 37 other states who have closed schools until April 6th, 2020. I have been constantly keeping an eye on the nationwide school closings using [Education Week](#) as a resource. As a protective measure, Terra Verde will be **transitioning in-person classes to a modified online learning environment for the two-week period following Spring Break, beginning Monday, March 23 through Friday, April 3.** Like many other schools, Terra Verde is following the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's Mitigation Strategies in responding to the novel coronavirus. At this point, our state and local health officials are using the most-up-to date information to make data-driven and evidence based recommendations. The Oklahoma Department of Health shares these recommendations with the Oklahoma Department of Education who then works with schools and communities to provide accurate guidance and support.

To be clear, Terra Verde's campus will be closed until April 6th, 2020. Our faculty will upload assignments or email families, make short videos (if applicable), and provide assignments for students to complete. We will also send additional information and communicate with you throughout the process as we are only beginning to see the impact of this pandemic on society. Below you will find a list of recommendations from Ms. Berryhill. They may be helpful when attempting to keep the kids entertained over spring-break. We will have additional information coming your way in the next few days and weeks.

1. Mo Willems (Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus! author) is offering free daily drawing/writing lessons at noon on the Kennedy Center's website. The traffic is heavy, so you'll have to "get in line." We only waited about 5 minutes. You don't have to log on during the live stream; you can also wait and view it later. Andrea loved this today!
<https://www.kennedy-center.org/education/mo-willems/>
2. The Cincinnati Zoo will go live daily (7 days per week) while they are closed to the public with "Animal Safari at Home." You can tune in at 2 p.m. on their Facebook page. Today's featured animal is my all-time favorite, Fiona the hippo!!!
<https://www.facebook.com/cincinnati-zoo/>
3. @mcharpermanor on Instagram is going live at noon on weekdays with high-quality art lessons. They will archive the lessons if you can't live stream it. I was able to order the necessary art supplies on michaels.com- the discount was significant compared to Amazon when I used my coupon. Here is the supply list for their first week of projects:
<https://www.mcharpermanor.com/post/supply-list-for-our-first-week-of-projects>

4. Fluency and Fitness is free for families for 21 days. Your child can access 365+ reading and math skills, and get their wiggles out at the same time!
<https://fluencyandfitness.com/register/school-closures/>
5. YouTube Live lessons from author/illustrator Jarrett J. Krosoczka at noon daily:
<https://www.youtube.com/studiojjk>
6. ABCMouse, Adventure Academy, and Reading IQ (vast library of online books) are all free at this time. <https://www.ageoflearning.com>
7. My absolute favorite website for individualized reading and math instruction is FREE for the rest of the year. This is a BIG DEAL! Please please please go sign up now!<https://www.ixl.com>
8. Keep up the Mandarin learning at home with <https://www.littlechinesereaders.com>. You can get a 2-month premium membership with code HOMESTUDY.
9. My all-time favorite reading app, Reading Eggs, has a free 30 day trial.
https://readingeggs.com/taf2/?fbclid=IwAR0hU80KKPIotiduh9Y_PCofJv10tyMhwDc2GaHLEcZ4okIpxDYdryU8JxU
10. Check out the vast list of free websites for yourself here:
<http://www.amazingeducationalresources.com/>

We realize this time of uncertainty is extraordinary. I am sure that our students have important questions about the global outbreak. Ms. Berryhill send a great email last week on how best to talk with lower school students. Recently, the CDC updated their information about [talking to children](#) about Covid-19.

While the days ahead may seem dark, keep in mind that regrowth of most photo-dormant seeds require darkness. We will and must persevere.

Sincerely,

Eric M. Snyder, Ph.D

Headmaster, Terra Verde Discovery School

1000 36th Ave, S.E.

Norman, Oklahoma 73026

(p) 405-366-6362 (f) 405-928-5065

www.terraverdeschool.org

<http://www.facebook.com/terraverdeschool>