

STAY CA TION



*your
at home
vacation
kit*

A YEAR AT THE YELLOW HOUSE
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We are so excited that you've decided
to take a stay at home vacation.
We've put together this little kit to help you
create a fantastic adventure!

**It's time to plan
a super duper fun**

STAYCATION!

1. Plan ahead.

don't wait until the last minute or hope that the right moments will fall into your lap...they won't. get out pen and paper and make a plan for each day.

2. Decide what you want at the end of your vacation.

what do you want to feel at when the last day of your staycation arrives? do you want to feel like you had a lot of fun? stayed in bed all week? or never stopped going places? decide which suits you best.

3. Schedule a start and end date.

will your vacation start the day school gets out? will it end a couple of days before going back to school? with a staycation you get to decide.

4. Get out of the house everyday.

treat this like an out of town vacation. when you go out of town you see the sites and get out of your hotel room or down to the pool.

5. Fill each day with fun.

there are all kinds of things to do. make sure to get out of the house everyday by a set time so that you don't laze around the house.

6. No chores!

You don't usually do them on vacation.

7. Unplug. No technology.

avoid checking your email, blog, twitter, facebook, and doing work projects. you're on vacation.

8. Take care of household projects

before the staycation. get the little things done that you want to get done. spring cleaning is not a staycation activity.

9. Hire a maid.

on a regular vacation a maid comes to spiffy up your room and wash your towels. hire a maid 1/2 way through your vacation and then again at the end.

10. Put an auto-responder on your email.

remember to add an auto-responder to your email accounts. that way you can breathe easy that everyone knows what to expect while you're gone and when you'll be back.

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first things first

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*how to plan an
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On the following page....

is a two week staycation schedule. fill in the days on your calendar that you will be creating your staycation.

How the chart works.

Each section will help you to decide what your activity for the day will be, what time you need to leave the house, what your budget for the day is going to be, and what the costs are for your plan.

The chart is a guideline.

I created this chart because, in the past, when we've decided to have a staycation we tend to fly by the seat of our pants. Sometimes we do a home project, other days we sleep until late in the morning, or we sit around for half of our morning trying to decide what we should do today. In order to have a staycation that feels like a vacation we need a chart like this.

Be flexible.

Just like on any vacation...things don't always go as planned. Be open to the schedule changing, running later than originally hoped, or scrapping the whole day to do something that you've decided sounds more fun. You want a little spontaneity in a vacation!!

Fill out each category.

Make sure to put together this chart (or something similar to it). Doing so will help you stick to making your staycation happen instead of having it evolve into an ameoba shaped nothing of a lame vacation.

Show it to your family.

Once you show it to your kids you know it's going to happen. They may have suggestions. Be open to them. Most likely though, they're going to think a staycation is pretty darn awesome!

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WEEK ONE

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<div>Day 1:</div> <div>Activity of the day:</div> <div>Time to leave the house:</div> <div>Prep steps:</div> <div>Budget/Cost:</div>	<div>Day 2:</div> <div>Activity of the day:</div> <div>Time to leave the house:</div> <div>Prep steps:</div> <div>Budget/Cost:</div>	<div>Day 3:</div> <div>Activity of the day:</div> <div>Time to leave the house:</div> <div>Prep steps:</div> <div>Budget/Cost:</div>	<div>Day 4:</div> <div>Activity of the day:</div> <div>Time to leave the house:</div> <div>Prep steps:</div> <div>Budget/Cost:</div>
<div>Day 5:</div> <div>Activity of the day:</div> <div>Time to leave the house:</div> <div>Prep steps:</div> <div>Budget/Cost:</div>	<div>Day 6:</div> <div>Activity of the day:</div> <div>Time to leave the house:</div> <div>Prep steps:</div> <div>Budget/Cost:</div>	<div>Day 7:</div> <div>Activity of the day:</div> <div>Time to leave the house:</div> <div>Prep steps:</div> <div>Budget/Cost:</div>	<div>Notes:</div> <div></div>

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how to plan

WEEK TWO

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Day 8: Activity of the day: Time to leave the house: Prep steps: Budget/Cost:	Day 9: Activity of the day: Time to leave the house: Prep steps: Budget/Cost:	Day 10: Activity of the day: Time to leave the house: Prep steps: Budget/Cost:	Day 11: Activity of the day: Time to leave the house: Prep steps: Budget/Cost:
Day 12: Activity of the day: Time to leave the house: Prep steps: Budget/Cost:	Day 13: Activity of the day: Time to leave the house: Prep steps: Budget/Cost:	Day 14: Activity of the day: Time to leave the house: Prep steps: Budget/Cost:	Notes: 

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*35 ideas
for a super
duper
home vacation*

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1. Go Geocaching.

check out <http://www.geocaching.com/> for a geocach near you. if you have an iphone grab the geocaching app. we went to the dollar store and bought some dollar items to keep in our car in case the geocaching bug strikes.

2. Plan an all day park day.

decide to play a game of baseball at the baseball field, lay on a blanket and read books, long board through the park, take a walk through the woods, have a donut breakfast, and then a bbq lunch, end the day with a salad and lemonade as the sun goes down.

3. Learn to play an instrument.

gather around YouTube.com together and learn how to play the guitar, piano, ukulele, or harmonica

4. Go to the local water park or indoor aquatic center.

5. Crochet tournament.

tfind a hill in your town and set up a crochet tournament. afterward break out cookies and milk to enjoy on a blanket.

6. Go to the zoo.

7. Bowl at the local bowling alley.

8. Go miniature golfing

pretend it's the Master's. everyone dress like the pros dress and act very serious during the entire match. award the winner (the person with the highest score instead of the lowest) a special silly trophy.

9. Star gaze at the planetarium.

10. Go on a history tour of your city.

Find the oldest house in the city or the oldest person living in the city and go visit them. See how many historical sites you can get to in one day. Remember to bring lots of snacks to fuel your race against the clock.

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11. Choose one morning to go for brunch at a restaurant you don't usually eat at.

12. Have a video game night.

we do not have any video games at all so this would be an absolute treat for our kids.
if you don't have video games rent the equipment and games from a local gaming shop.

13. Take a scenic train ride.

Find out if there are trains that run through your city. Sometimes there are special trains that run and offer special tours and activities for kids.

14. Find a place to ride go karts.

15. Ride the ski lift in the off season to the top of a mountain.

Bring a picnic lunch and explore the top of the mountain.

16. Take a historic homes tour in a local town.

17. Be Jedi Knights and find a place to play laser tag.

18. Attend a community theatre production.

19. Take a behind the scenes tour.

Ask a museum or car or chocolate factory if you can see what goes on behind the scenes everyday. You can also do this for the firestation, police station, movie theatre projection room, TV station, grocery store, post office, fast food restaurant, radio station,

20. Visit a small town you've never been to.

Decide to stay for the whole day and be explorers. Pretend you're going to move there and find out where you'd get your hair cut, go out to eat, the school, play at their park, walk on the sidewalks of their downtown.

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21. Rent a boat and take a boat ride out on the lake.

It would be especially fun to play in the lake for the afternoon and then have dinner on the boat as the sun sets.

22. Ride the commuter train downtown.

Our kids LOVE to ride the trains in the city. We hop on at one point and see how many places we can visit before it's time to come back to the car. We hop on the city buses and trains to get around all day.

23. A home spa night.

Put candles and ice cold cucumber/orange/lemon slice water around the house, Do pedicures and facials.

24. Visit a pond or lake and learn to fish.

Ask a friend who knows how to fish if they will teach you how to fish (and bring the fishing rods, too.)

25. Have an all day board game marathon.

Set up board game stations move from one to the next.

26. Attend baseball's spring training.

27. Camp locally for a night or two.

For extra fun bring glow sticks to wear around your neck when the lights go down. Chop the veggies, put them in ziplocks, and mix the pancake mix in Tupperware before heading to the campsite. Don't forget baby wipes.

28. Go to the dollar movie.

29. Have a field day.

Play freeze tag, potato sack races, ghost in the graveyard, and kick the can.

30. Find deliciousness at the Farmer's market.

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31. Get up before the sun rises and fly kites.

Surprise your kids and wake them before sunrise. Bring kites, blankets, pillows, and pick up donuts and milk. Arrive at a pre-selected location and enjoy breakfast and kite flying.

32. Have an all day reading fest.

The night before your reading fest go to the library or local bookshop and let everyone choose a couple of books. Pick up some treats. Let everyone find a comfy spot and enjoy your vacation reading day.

33. Go on a biking tour around your town.

Map out the best biking areas ahead of time. If possible create a scavenger hunt to make each stop more fun. Have an ending point where you get to shop, eat, or find a gift.

34. Make each day a different theme.

Themes could be different countries or different words. Choose explore or Mexico. For explore you could plan to go to a place or trail you've never been to. For Mexico you could plan to have authentic Mexican food for lunch.

35. Find and go to the drive-in movie.

Drive-in movie theatres are quickly disappearing. A quick search on google will tell you if there are any in your area. Make sure to bring your cooler stocked with food, lots of blankets and pillows, lawn chairs, and some card games and a football to throw around while you wait for the movie to start.

Happy Staycationing!!

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Have a very happy

STAYCATION!

*Love,
The Fear Family*

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