

THE FRANKLIN FIVE

PRACTICE HABIT FIVE

As summer begins, now might be the best time to dust off habit five: seek first to understand, then to be understood. This practice seems to be fading in social circles, but it doesn't need to. You and your children will discover the amazing negotiating power that comes when the people you talk with feel understood.

CELEBRATE FAMILY TRADITIONS

If you ask your friends and children to tell you their favorite Independence Day traditions, two things will happen. You'll get great new ideas to try, and you'll discover that some of the things you're already doing mean more to your kids than you think.

PLAN A ROAD TRIP

Road trips are a wonderful way to experience the nuances of an area -- from the flavors at the local drive-through diners to the sights and landscapes you'll see along the way. Right now is a wonderful time to take to the roads for an adventure.

TALK WITH YOUR KIDS ABOUT THE COST OF FREEDOM

Plan to visit a war monument or watch a documentary and talk with your children about the sacrifices soldiers and their loved ones have made for freedom. Share stories with your children to help them gain a deeper respect for the heroes around them.

GO STARGAZING

The summer is perfect for going outside and just gazing up at the stars. You can even take it a step further by finding a dark sky park and seeing the amazing skies above.

MY FOCUS FOR THIS MONTH

KEY DATES

- 1 Canada Day (Canada)
- 4 Independence Day
- 7 World Chocolate Day
- 9 (Eid) al Adha Begins
- 12 National Simplicity Day
- 18 World Listening Day
- 21 National Junk Food Day
- 24 National Drive-Thru Day
- 29 Islamic New Year Begins
- 30 International Friendship Day

WEEKLY OBSERVANCES

- 17-23: Capture the Sunset Week

MONTHLY OBSERVANCES

- National Ice Cream Month
- National Parks and Recreation Month