

2

LIMIT RECREATIONAL SCREEN TIME TO HOURS OR LESS EVERY DAY

Keep TV/Computer out of bedroom. No screen time under the age of 2.

Life is a lot more fun when you join in!

Try these activities instead of watching TV.

- Ride a bike.
- Go on a nature hike.
- Put together a puzzle.
- Turn on music and dance.
- Read a book or magazine.
- Spend time catching up with your family.
- Take your kids to the park or beach.
- Play board games.
- Walk, run, or jog.
- Start a journal.
- Play ball (basketball, catch, soccer, etc.).
- Go to the library.
- Explore free activities in your community.
- Rollerblade.
- Play charades.
- Go play in the snow (e.g. sled, ski, snowshoe, build a snowman or fort).

Tame the TV and computer!

Set limits and provide alternatives.

- Set some basic rules, such as no TV or computer before homework or chores are done.
- Do not watch TV during mealtime.
- Use a timer. When the bell rings, it's time to turn off the TV.
- Eliminate TV time during the week.
- Set family guidelines for age-appropriate shows.
- Make a list of fun activities to do instead of being in front of a screen.
- Keep books, magazines, and board games in the family room.

Recommendations for limiting screen time:

- Limit screen time to a maximum of 2 hours each day.
- No screen time for children under the age of 2.
- Do not allow screens in bedrooms.

Did you know?

- Screen time includes time spent on TVs, computers, gaming consoles/handhelds, tablets, and smartphones. It's important to limit the use of ALL screens.
- Watching TV is associated with more snacking and increased obesity.
- Too much TV has been linked to lower reading scores and attention problems.

MaineHealth

LET'S GO!

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