

A General Daily Schedule for FLDS Children 4th grade – Highschool

This is a general outline of daily activities that our children are accustomed to doing. As all parents must realize, our schedule varies from day to day according to the circumstances. Children are the priority and are accustomed to having mothers and caretakers who are very willing to help. Each child has their own personal needs, especially as they grow and mature, so they are allowed to choose what they would like. Parents encourage and reason with their older children, and children choose for themselves.

5:00 am Early Morning Duties: Children rise and prepare to have a wonderful day! Private prayers are most important, then getting dressed, combing hair, cleaning the bedroom, etc. Older girls are depended on to help comb the younger girls' hair. Younger children follow the examples of the older ones and learn many skills by watching.

5:30 am Personal Reading and Scripture Study: It is an important part of our religion that our children read and grow in understanding of the scriptures. The Bible, Book of Mormon, Doctrine and Covenants, etc, are placed within reach of our children. As children get older they are expected to do scripture study on their own, and are encouraged to arise early enough to do it before the regular family prayer time. Older children are also encouraged to help prepare the morning meal and help other children get ready for the day.

6:00 am Family Prayer Time: Singing, prayer, and a reading from the Sermons of President Leroy S. Johnson are the procedures of the family prayer time together. These children are old enough to sit quiet, read along, and help other brothers and sisters learn to respect the words of the Prophets.

6:30 am Breakfast Time: The children are served a very hearty breakfast each day. If the food is not to their liking, they good-naturedly eat a small portion, then request something they enjoy. Mothers keep a variety of choices on hand so that the children's needs will be taken care of. Children are taught to eat quietly and have good table manners.

7:00 am Clean Up Time / Get Ready for School: Children join their mothers in gathering the breakfast dishes, washing, drying, and putting away; sweeping the floor, etc. Often times brothers and sisters fill in for each other, or mothers offer to help with the family duties, so that school children can finish up their homework or prepare a class snack before they go to school.

7:30 am Morning Class: Breathless, smiling children file into the schoolhouse about ten minutes before starting time. They are anxious to learn, and greet their teachers and friends with cheerful a "hello". Morning Class is a 45 minute to one hour long religious class. After a song and prayer, the school principal takes charge and calls on teachers, guests, or children to stand up and bear testimony of what they believe. Freedom of speech is honored in our society.

8:30 am – 11:45 am Basic School Outline: 4th through 12th grades are considered the "higher grades". The children have a greater work load and more responsibilities. The general subjects are taught in these grades. Classes include English, math, reading, writing, history, social studies, geography, world history, algebra, science, word building, phonics skills, etc. Parents have done all they could to make sure their children have a well-rounded education. Cooking classes, physical education classes, sewing classes, craft classes, and wood working classes are provided as well as horticulture classes.

School children from 4th to 12th grades are separated into boys classes and girls classes. Parent/teacher conferences are held at the beginning of each quarter. Summer packets are prepared

to send home with each student at the end of the school year. These packets help reinforce the skills they have already learned and prepare them for the next grade. Children are taught proper conduct and to honor and respect their parents and teachers. They are encouraged to be on time with their assignments, have neat handwriting, and complete the requirements needed to help them become well-educated Americans

11:45 am Lunch Time: The children are let out of school early so they can make it home to their noontime family prayer. Family time is very important to students, parents, and teachers. Teachers respect the home requirements, and parents respect the school requirements. Children hurry home to friendly faces and tasty food. One detail we would like to mention: there is always bread on the table at every meal in addition to the other foods served. Older children are expected to eat at least a small portion of what is served, and then if they would rather something else, they can get what they need.

12:45 – 2:45 pm Back to School: After helping with lunch clean up, the children dash out the door and back to school to continue their studies. 7th to 12th grade students are often used to help with the younger grades. Every day is filled with exciting, new, character-building experiences.

2:45 - 4:00 Snack Time and Homework Time: Even older children enjoy snacks. Parents make sure there are healthy, wholesome snacks available for the children. Children are allowed recreation time outside and then they work on their homework. Children are encouraged to use their time wisely and efficiently. Students are able to call their teachers if they need help with their studies.

4:00 – 5:00 pm Family Duties/Personal Projects: Children have ideas and dreams as well as adults. There is time in the bustle of the day for the children to work on their personal projects such as sewing, painting, journal writing, trying out new cooking recipes, visiting, computer work, building projects, etc. Boys and girls of age like to drive.

5:00 pm Dinner Time: Many of the older children help with the cooking in the home, and often decide the menu, etc. The children are taught to live by the Word of Wisdom as revealed by the Prophet Joseph Smith.

5:30 Dishes: Dishes are one of the main activities the children do. Working together in the kitchen as a family proves to stimulate the children's growth as much as anything. Learning to work together, talk together, etc., makes a world of difference in family life. It is these times that are so consistent that make all the difference in the world. Working together rubs off the sharp corners and rounds the children's character.

6:00 pm Singing and Training Time: Singing together is one of the favorite times of the day in the lives of the young people. They enjoy songs that have depth, meaning. Some of the young people compose their own tunes, and many more play the piano.

The reading of the Book of Mormon is an assignment in the school curriculum. In most homes 4th grade through 12th grade students gather and read the assignment together, and sometimes a parent reads it to them. The stories are true and the children learn priceless lessons from them.

7:00 pm Family Prayer Time: Together with the rest of the family, the children join in prayer and song. They tell each other "good-night", close their eyes in peaceful slumber, and dream of the bright future ahead.