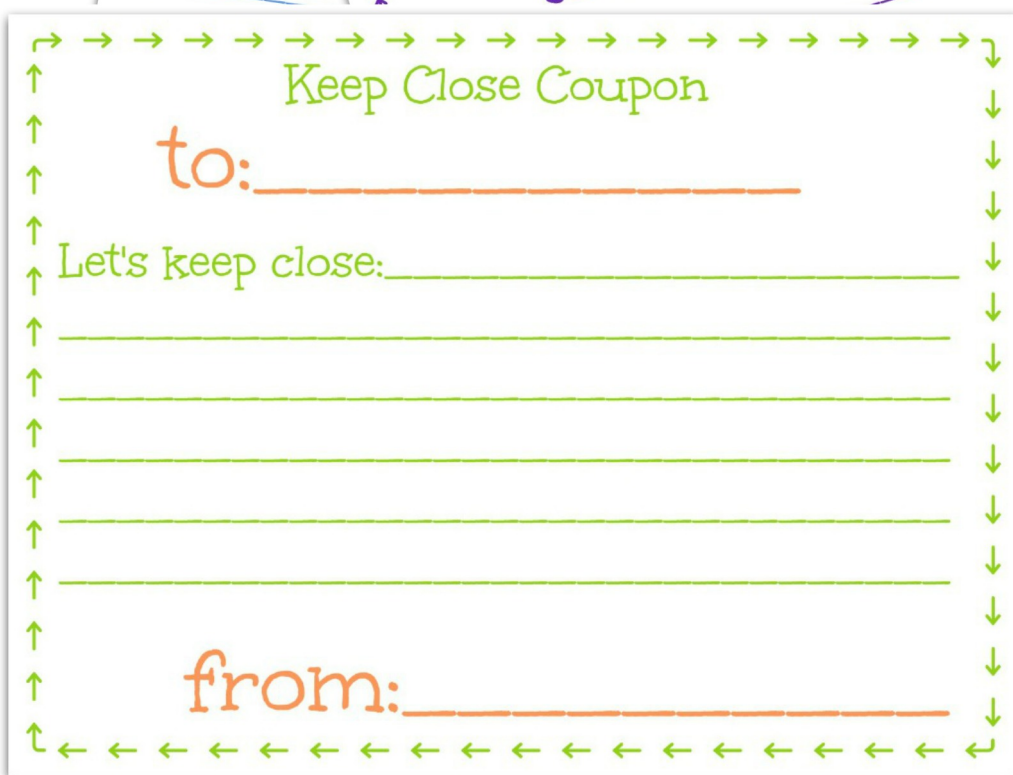
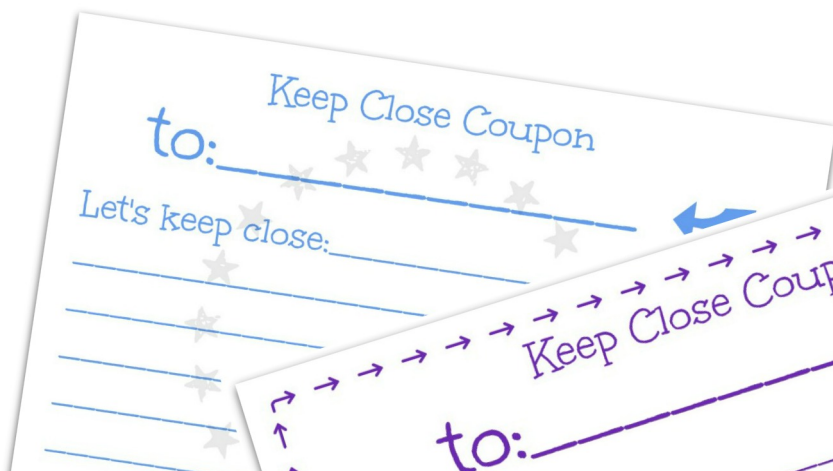


Keep Close Coupons



by Donna Reish

Keep Close Coupons

Thoughts about these coupons

- (1) There are a lot of coupons for special things floating around, but we like these because their name tells the why behind them. We are going to do this or that because we want to keep close.
- (2) Don't pass them out constantly—and possibly not even once a week. (Other coupons, like affirmation ones, are good for weekly or lunch box types of coupons.)
- (3) These should be used to communicate to the child that you want to do something special together so that you can be close to each other.
- (4) Try to do low to no cost things so that it doesn't become a thing where your child always has to DO something in order to be with you. (See ideas below.)
- (5) Alternate with just Mom; just Dad; and Mom and Dad together with the child.
- (6) The activities together do not have to be long. (Again, see ideas below.) They can be as short as an hour long card game or a walk in the neighborhood.
- (7) While you don't want these to get expensive, if you have pre-teens and teens, do plan to incorporate some food-related outings! It can be simple like an ice cream cone from McDonalds, but our experience has been that tweens and teens love to eat!
- (8) Be sure that your times together are not always so activity-driven that you can't talk and just be together. For example, while going to the movies might be fun, it would be better to go to the park and take a picnic snack and walk around the lake so that you can really connect.
- (9) Take notes about what your child likes, what outings or times together meant a lot to him before, etc. Our oldest son thrived on my husband meeting him in the driveway to shoot baskets at ten every night after Ray had put the littles to bed. Some things are more special to some kids than other things are.
- (10) If you are giving these to teens, you might not want to put a date on the coupon. While it is easier to schedule with an elementary child (Saturday morning breakfast sandwich at the park), teens' schedules are often challenging to work around. You want to give him the what then determine a time together that works. (These should not feel like obligations to the teens—like time that you are taking away from other things.)

by Character Ink!

Keep Close Coupon

to: _____

Let's keep close: _____

from: _____

Keep Close Coupon

to: _____

Let's keep close: _____

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

from: _____

Keep Close Coupon

to: _____

Let's keep close: _____

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Donna Reish, mother of seven grown children and thirty-two year homeschool veteran, is a prolific curriculum writer, blogger, and teacher from Indiana. She graduated from Ball State University with a degree in Elementary Education and did master's work in Reading Specialist following that. Donna began writing curriculum for a publisher out of Chicago specifically for homeschoolers twenty years ago. Following the completion of those thirty books

over ten years, she and her husband started a small press publishing company writing materials for homeschools and Christian schools. With the surge of digital products, Donna now writes curriculum books that are digital downloads (both secular and faith-based products), bringing her total curriculum products to 120 books of 50,000+ pages. Donna tests all of her books with 50-80 in-person students each year locally before they are published--and this is her real love: Seeing the faces of students who achieve language arts goals that they never thought were possible using her creative, incremental approaches and materials. Donna teaches parents, teachers, and teacher parents, about grammar, language arts, writing, reading, learning, and more at her teaching website, *Language Arts Lady Blog*, and through her videocasts/podcasts, *How I Teach*.

Want to know how to get up to three FREE teaching products per week from various TPT sellers? Want to be a part of a community of homeschoolers who love great deals, free products, and sound advice? Join me over in my FB group, [Homeschoolers Love Teachers Pay Teachers!](#)

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