

Daily Learning Planner

*Ideas families can use to help children
do well in school*

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THE
PARENT
INSTITUTE®

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Daily Learning Planner: Ideas Families Can Use to Help Children Do Well in School—Try a New Idea Every Day!

- 1. Ask your child, "What would you do with a million dollars?"
- 2. It's International Friendship Month. Have your child plan to do a good deed for a friend.
- 3. Talk together about what your child does right. List as many things as you can.
- 4. Help your child make a bookmark. On a piece of thin cardboard, have your child draw a scene or write a quotation from a favorite book.
- 5. Ask your child to read to you while you make dinner.
- 6. Be creative in the kitchen. See who can invent the greatest-tasting new pizza topping.
- 7. Create a board game with your child. Use poster board, markers, index cards, dice and coins for game pieces.
- 8. Have your child write a Valentine's message to someone who is sick or lonely. Mail it to that person.
- 9. Help your child plan ahead. Talk about the weekend. What needs to be done to prepare for a family activity?
- 10. February is Great American Pie Month. Celebrate by reading a children's book about pies, such as *Pie* by Sarah Weeks.
- 11. With your child, spend a half hour writing about a special day.
- 12. Ask if your child has ever seen or experienced bullying in school. If so, alert the school.
- 13. Challenge your child to create a comic strip of a familiar story.
- 14. Show and tell family members that you love them.
- 15. Let your child pick what to wear and where to read today.
- 16. Have a Predictions Day. Predict how long it will take to get to the store, to fill the bathtub, etc.
- 17. Discuss ways you work with numbers at home—for example, when setting an alarm clock or the oven timer.
- 18. Dissolve some salt and water in a glass. Watch for a few days. Talk about what happens.
- 19. Improved report card? High grade on a test? Make your achiever Head of the House for the day.
- 20. Make a crossword puzzle to help your child review vocabulary words.
- 21. Talk with your child about what it means to be a responsible member of a community.
- 22. It's the birthday of George Washington. Take a virtual tour together of his home, Mount Vernon, at <https://virtualltour.mountvernon.org/>.
- 23. Look in the books and articles for interesting words. Help your child look them up in a dictionary.
- 24. Challenge your child to look through the house and make a list of everything that comes from plants.
- 25. Let your child clean some dirty pennies with ketchup. Research together why this works.
- 26. Have your child write a poem or story from the point of view of a family pet.
- 27. Ask about people your elementary schooler admires. Why does your child admire them?
- 28. Put on music and spend 15 minutes drawing or writing with your child. Let the music be your inspiration.
- 29. Explain that people learn when they try new things. Today, try a new food with your child or take a new route home together.