Elementary School

Daily Learning Planner

Ideas families can use to help children do well in school

Title I Program
Educational Service Unit #7



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. Make an appointment to spend some one-on-one time with your child this month. Write it on your calendar.
2. Find out about upcoming school events for families. Plan to attend as many as you can.
3. Ask your child, "What one thing makes you feel really excited?"
4. Choose a place by the front door to keep items that go to school. Help your child get into the habit of putting things there each day.
5. Keep computers and other digital devices in common areas so you can monitor your child's activities.
6. Help your child plan ahead. Tonight, talk about the coming week. What does your child need to do to be ready?
7. Ask your child, "If you could go anywhere, where would you go?"
8. It's International Literacy Day. Talk with your child about why reading is important and schedule time for reading aloud.
9. A nutritious breakfast helps kids learn. Make sure your child starts the day with a healthy breakfast at home or at school.
10. Choose a place to display your child's best schoolwork. Change the display often.
11. Watch a funny video together. Then, have your child draw a comic strip showing what it was about.
12. Talk to your child about the importance of school attendance. Students should attend every day unless they are sick or there is an emergency.
13. Name different types of punctuation with your child. Then, have your elementary schooler find examples in a book or news article.
14. Create a special place to keep important papers and communications from school—a box or basket, or a folder on your computer.
15. Be sure you and your child know the school rules. Talk about one today.
16. Ask to hear about one thing your child learned in school today. Share one thing you learned today.
17. Invent a word with your child. Write a silly definition.
18. Find something small enough to fit in your child's pocket. Have your child write (or tell you) a story about it.
19. Take a walk together and look for signs of fall.
20. Teach your child positive ways to handle stress—exercise, get enough sleep, talk about problems.
21. Go outside. Show your child which way is *north*, *south*, *east* and *west*.
22. Today's news is history in the making. Watch the news together. Talk about current events at the dinner table.
23. "Adopt" a neighborhood tree. With your child, watch it throughout the year. Talk about how it looks, feels and even smells.
24. Look at a weather report with your child today. What are the highs and lows expected?
25. Make a jigsaw puzzle together. Glue a picture onto cardboard. Cut it into puzzle pieces and challenge your child to put it back together.
26. Apple tree planter Johnny Appleseed was born on this day in 1774. At the grocery store, have your child count the different types of apples you see.
27. Play Guess that Number with your child: How many grapes in a bunch?
28. At dinner, discuss the "best" and "worst" parts of everyone's day.
29. Discuss three things that you love about your child.
30. Talk with your child about the importance of doing one's best. Point out examples of people who are doing their best.

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