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. Try a new mode of transportation this month with your child, such as a train or bus.
- ❍ 2. Encourage your child to write a thank-you note to a favorite teacher or school staff member.
- ❍ 3. What are your child's academic interests? Talk about how those topics are useful outside of school.
- ❍ 4. Write down questions your child asks that you can't answer. Keep a list of questions to look up together later.
- ❍ 5. Review your child's schedule. Does it include enough "down time"?
- ❍ 6. Help your child interview people in various careers that seem interesting. What would a typical day be like?
- ❍ 7. Check out a joke book at the library. Take turns sharing jokes at dinner.
- ❍ 8. Challenge family members to get creative in the kitchen. See who can invent the greatest tasting new pizza topping.
- ❍ 9. Have your child dissolve some salt in a glass of water. Observe for a few days, and talk about what happens.
- ❍ 10. Make a design using five toothpicks. Let your child look at it, then cover it up. Can your student recreate it from memory?
- ❍ 11. Help your child practice division. Ask, "How many of your lifetimes has Grandma lived?"
- ❍ 12. Show your child how to fold paper to make different types of airplanes. Together, see which one flies the best.
- ❍ 13. Tonight, leave a valentine where you child will see it first thing in the morning.
- ❍ 14. Tell and show family members that you love them.
- ❍ 15. Put three items in a bag. Challenge your child to use them as props in an improvised skit.
- ❍ 16. Have each family member bring an interesting fact to dinner.
- ❍ 17. Read a favorite fairy tale to your child.
- ❍ 18. Discuss the meaning of a *dozen*. What things are often sold in dozens?
- ❍ 19. Offer praise when your child thinks through a decision and makes a positive choice.
- ❍ 20. Teach your child to consider other people's feelings. Have your child imagine how someone might feel in various situations.
- ❍ 21. Cheer your child on when a task is challenging. Say "I know you can figure this out!"
- ❍ 22. Take a walk with your child and use all five senses to observe the world around you.
- ❍ 23. Talk about the solar system. Teach your child to remember the order of the planets using "My Very Elegant Mother Just Served Us Noodles" (Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune).
- ❍ 24. Learn the sign language alphabet with your child. Use it to spell words today.
- ❍ 25. Make math yummy today. Give your child raisins or popcorn to use as manipulatives when adding and subtracting.
- ❍ 26. Ask your child to complete this sentence: "If I had one wish, it would be ____."
- ❍ 27. Tie a string between two chairs. Use a balloon to play indoor volleyball with your child.
- ❍ 28. Have your child predict the results of flipping a coin 10 times. Then, try it.

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