

Daily Learning Planner

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

Elementary Schools
PENNCREST School District



THE
PARENT
INSTITUTE®

June • July • August 2021

June 2021

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

- 1. Make a list of 10 things your child has learned in this school year. Post it on the refrigerator.
- 2. Praise your child for something she did today. Make your praise as specific as possible.
- 3. Take a fraction walk with your child. What fraction of the cars you see are red? What fraction of the rooftops are black?
- 4. Ask your child to make a list of items your family can reuse, repurpose or recycle.
- 5. Help your child organize his room.
- 6. Some time today, exchange notes with your child instead of talking. (This also works when things get noisy!)
- 7. Ask your child to help you make an I'm Bored Box. Fill it with things to read, games to play and art supplies.
- 8. With your child, learn how to count to 10 in at least three different languages.
- 9. Plan an indoor "camp out" with your child.
- 10. Make a list of five fun things to do to as a family this summer.
- 11. Teach your child how to disagree respectfully.
- 12. Show your child pictures of different dark green vegetables. Let her choose one. Find a recipe and give it a try.
- 13. Challenge your child to turn a newspaper headline into a question. Then read the article together. Does it answer the question?
- 14. Ask your child to alphabetize your books or the spices in your cupboard.
- 15. Practice making decisions as a family. Let everyone have a say.
- 16. Ask your child to tell you about something he loves.
- 17. Does your child have a summer reading list? Post it in a special place. Check off books as she finishes reading them.
- 18. Start a sentence-a-day story. In a notebook, have your child write the first sentence of a story. Take turns adding a sentence each day.
- 19. Ask your child to help you prepare a family favorite breakfast at home. Make this a regular habit.
- 20. Let your child use medicine droppers and water colored with food coloring to experiment with mixing colors.
- 21. Review simple first-aid skills with your child today.
- 22. Have your child write a thank-you letter to someone who made the school experience better for him this year.
- 23. Sponsor a summer-long contest. Who in your family can read the most books?
- 24. Watch part of a TV show or video with the sound muted. Ask family members to make up the dialogue.
- 25. Help your child plan three healthy meals.
- 26. Have your child decorate a box for photos and other small keepsakes this summer. In August, use them to make a scrapbook.
- 27. Review math facts with your child.
- 28. On a sunny day, trace your shadows on the sidewalk with chalk.
- 29. Read a story about persistence with your child, such as *The Little Engine That Could*.
- 30. Teach your child how to sew on a button or patch today.

July 2021

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- 1. Have a treasure hunt outside. Challenge your child to find five specific items (leaf, grass, pinecone, etc.).
- 2. Have your child close his eyes and tell you everything he hears.
- 3. Show your child a picture of a painting of flowers. Then find some flowers, and see if your child can paint a picture in the artist's style.
- 4. Talk to your child about what it means to be *free*.
- 5. Ask your child to write a poem about her favorite thing to do.
- 6. Serve your child a new food. Then have him write and act out his own commercial for it.
- 7. With your child, estimate the number of socks in her drawer. Then count to find out the exact number.
- 8. Is your child turning into a summer couch potato? Limit screen time and encourage outdoor play.
- 9. Plan an activity for the weekend that the whole family will enjoy.
- 10. Talk to your child about peer group pressure. It's not too soon to talk about ways to say *no* to drugs and alcohol.
- 11. Turn a muffin tin upside down. Let your child paint the bottoms of the cups. Press a piece of paper over the paint to make a print.
- 12. Help your child make a fruit salad. Include at least one new or unfamiliar fruit.
- 13. Have your child comb his hair. Use the static electricity in the comb to pick up paper confetti.
- 14. Give your child a spiral notebook to use as a journal. Ask her to write in it for 10 minutes each day.
- 15. Have your child place a leaf (vein side up) on newspaper. Cover it with thin paper and have him rub with a crayon.
- 16. Tonight, take a walk with your child. See how many stars you can see.
- 17. Plan an outdoor adventure day. Take a hike or visit a park or playground.
- 18. Help your child interview family members and write a family newsletter based on what she learns.
- 19. Monitor which websites your child is visiting. Discuss online safety.
- 20. Will your child need a physical exam for school this fall? If so, make an appointment now.
- 21. Go on a map search through a newspaper. How many maps can your child find?
- 22. Talk about favorite songs. Why does your child like his favorite song?
- 23. How many farm animals can your child name?
- 24. Set aside some time to spend one-on-one with your child today.
- 25. Have a "power out" night. Use flashlights. Avoid using electronic devices.
- 26. Look at the weather forecast with your child today. Compare where you live to the rest of the country.
- 27. Read an article to your child. Ask her to summarize the main points.
- 28. Look at photos from a year ago. Your child will be amazed at how much he has grown!
- 29. Review emergency contacts with your child. Does she know the phone numbers to call?
- 30. Issue a Geography Challenge. Take turns naming a state, province or country. Who can call out the capital first?
- 31. Talk to your child about how name-calling hurts everyone.

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August 2021

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- 1. Give your child a measuring tape. Ask him to measure dimensions of objects in your house.
- 2. For five minutes, both you and your child write a story. Then switch and finish each other's story.
- 3. If your child could be a famous person, who would she be? Why?
- 4. Make math flash cards together to help keep your child's math skills sharp.
- 5. Talk about tricky pairs of letters. Help your child distinguish between *w* and *m*, *n* and *u*, *b* and *d*, *i* and *l*.
- 6. Listen to a new kind of music with your child. Discuss how it makes you feel.
- 7. Write down a long word and see how many smaller words your child can create using only the letters in the long word.
- 8. Help your child check out a book about a career of interest from the library.
- 9. Ask your child to help you look through the ads and find the best prices for school supplies.
- 10. Dissolve some salt in a glass of water. Watch for a few days. Talk about what happens.
- 11. Get your child back into a school-year bedtime routine.
- 12. Have your child draw a picture. Ask him to make up a story about it and tell it to somebody.
- 13. Take turns as a family naming different parts of the body. Who can name the most?
- 14. Help your child make a list of things she would like to learn in the coming school year.
- 15. Ask your child to listen for a certain word as you read. Have him say it aloud when he hears it.
- 16. Put a leafy stalk of celery into colored water. Watch the color rise into the stalk over the next week.
- 17. Encourage writing by helping your child make her own stationery.
- 18. Stock a box or basket with supplies such as paper, pencils and glue sticks. Keep it in your child's study area.
- 19. Have a silent chat with your child. Draw what you want to say.
- 20. Put various objects on a tray. Have your child examine them, then close his eyes and name as many as he can remember.
- 21. Have a summer clean-up day. Choose a room and have your child help you clean it.
- 22. Ask your child to tell you the three best things about herself.
- 23. Tonight at bedtime, allow a few minutes after the light is off for quiet conversation with your child.
- 24. Have your child write and mail a letter to a friend.
- 25. Read a book about families together. Talk about your own family.
- 26. Ask your child to find the coldest place in the nation today and the warmest. What's the difference between the two temperatures?
- 27. Look at the school's website and social media pages with your child.
- 28. Have each family member look through a newspaper and pick an article of interest. Share the articles at dinner.
- 29. Ask your child what he enjoyed most this summer.
- 30. Play a favorite family board game tonight.
- 31. Review respectful school behavior with your child.

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