December 2021

1. Spray shaving cream in the tub. Let your child use a finger to draw shapes in the shaving cream.
2. Help your child think of words that describe winter.
3. Hide a toy in a box. Have your child shake it and guess what’s inside.
4. Glue a photo of your child onto a piece of paper. Have him decorate around it with drawings to make a gift for someone.
5. Cut string into three pieces of different lengths. Can your child arrange them from shortest to longest?
6. Give your child a large piece of white paper. Ask her to draw or paint seasonal decorations.
7. Offer to serve your child’s favorite dessert, as long as he helps make it.
8. Give your child three pictures that show different stages of an event. Ask, “Which came first, next, last?”
9. Practice sharing with your child.
10. Describe a noise and ask your child to tell you if it’s loud or soft.
11. See how long your child can stand on one foot. How about with her eyes closed?
12. Help your child clean out his closet. Donate toys and clothes in good condition to other families or a charity.
13. Teach your child what to do in case of a fire.
14. Assign your child a special job. It’s never too early to learn responsibility!
15. When the weather is wet or frigid, encourage indoor exercise.
16. Does your child know her birth date? If not, teach her. Tell her the birth dates of close friends and family members.
17. Name as many types of lights as you and your child can think of (flashlights, lamps, candles, holiday lights, headlights).
18. If your family will be taking a long car trip, pack a bag full of snacks, books and games to keep your child entertained.
19. Share 15 minutes of your favorite music with your child. Then listen to 15 minutes of songs he loves.
21. Have your child save pennies in a jar. When the jar is full, exchange the pennies for dollars and let her buy something.
22. Many people celebrate holidays in December. What holidays can your child name? Talk about why they are special.
23. Say a word. Can your child name one that begins with the same sound?
24. Ask your child to tell you the three best things about himself.
25. Take a walk with your child. Look for things you only see in December, such as holiday decorations and lights.
26. Pour salt on a plate. Let your child write letters in it with her fingers.
27. Decorate bagels for a snack. Use cream cheese and chopped vegetables.
28. Discuss feelings. Can your child make a happy face? What might he say if he were sad?
29. Pretend you have a magic carpet. Ask your child where she would go.
30. Talk with your child about the best things you both can remember from the past year.
31. Help your child make a noisemaker. Put uncooked rice in an aluminum pie pan and staple another pie pan on top.

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