

PRIME TIME

Parent Newsletter of the Title I Program

January 2023

Happy
New
Year

Mr. H. Jared Cardillo
Director of Instruction
Boardman Local School District

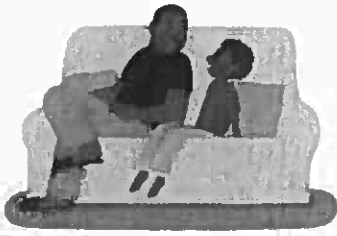
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Daily Learning Planner: Ideas Families Can Use to Help Children Do Well in School—Try a New Idea Every Day!

- 1. Make a list with your child of activities you enjoyed together during the past year. Schedule time on the calendar to do some of them this year.
- 2. Talk with your child about a choice you made and its consequences.
- 3. Pick a letter. How many country names can your child think of that begin with that letter?
- 4. Have your child pretend to be Mayor. Then ask your student to list three ideas for making your community a better place.
- 5. Challenge your child to put away 1 + 5 - 4 + 1 things around the house.
- 6. Play the Opposites Game. Say a word and see if your child can tell you its opposite.
- 7. Have a big job to finish? Look for five free minutes and get started. Small chunks of time add up, and you'll set a great example for your child.
- 8. Look for ways to involve your child in your hobbies. For example, if you are a runner, take your child for a short jog.
- 9. Have your child think of several words that start with the same letter, then use them all in one sentence that makes sense.
- 10. Look over your child's schoolwork. Talk about what your child did right before offering suggestions.
- 11. Help your child look up events that occurred on this day in history.
- 12. Have a contest: Who can name the most parts of the body? (Organs count, too.)
- 13. Decide as a family on something you want to accomplish together.
- 14. Help your child create a family joke book. Write one or two jokes per page. Staple the pages together.
- 15. Teach your child about resolving conflicts. Explain how people reach compromises. Give an example.
- 16. Help your child learn more about the life and work of Martin Luther King, Jr.
- 17. Label four sheets of paper: Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter. Have your child write descriptive words for each season.
- 18. Help your child clean out a closet. Pass on unused toys or clothes in good condition to other families.
- 19. Encourage your child to write a letter or an email to a friend.
- 20. Invent a word with your child. Write a definition as it would appear in the dictionary.
- 21. With your child, learn how to count to 10 in three different languages.
- 22. Cook breakfast with your child for the rest of the family.
- 23. When you're in the store, ask your child to figure how much tax you will be charged on a purchase.
- 24. Write an encouraging note and place it on your child's pillow.
- 25. Choose a poem to read aloud to your child. With your feet, stomp out the syllables as you read.
- 26. Talk about three ways you used math today. Ask everyone in the family to tell how they used math.
- 27. Plan an indoor family "camp-out." Make a tent from a blanket. Eat s'mores. Read scary stories.
- 28. Enjoy some outdoor exercise with your child today.
- 29. Look through your house with your child. Make a list of everything that comes from plants.
- 30. Show your child three small items, then put them away. Can your child name them from memory?
- 31. At dinner, have everyone talk about one thing they learned today.



Get More Out of Conversations With Your Child

Are you tired of asking your child about school and getting little response? Then try this strategy:

Instead of asking lots of questions when your child gets home from school, share a few things about your day first. For example, "I've had such a busy day. I had a meeting with my boss in the morning. I took Grandma to her doctor's appointment this afternoon. Then we stopped by the store to pick up groceries."

After you have finished, ask your child to tell you a little bit about the school day. Prompt with open-ended questions if necessary: "What was the best part of your day?" "Tell me about what you learned today."

You can also use this strategy to start discussions about schoolwork. If your child brings home artwork from school, look at it and make some conversations about what you see. Comment on the colors. Say what you like about it. Tell what it reminds you of, etc. Then ask your child, "What does it mean to you?"

SOURCE: Elementary School Parents Make the Difference! Jan. 2023, Vol. 34, No. 5

Boost Your Child's Desire to Read With These Five Strategies

When children *like* to read, they do it more often--which boosts reading skills and overall school success. To ignite your child's love of reading:

- 1. Celebrate.** Instead of simply checking out books at the library, make an event of it. Select interesting books, then choose a special place to enjoy reading together.
- 2. Explore.** Help your child discover an appealing book series. Kids often can't resist picking up the next book in a series.
- 3. Investigate.** Ask a question and encourage your child to find the answer by doing some research online.
- 4. Play.** Turn something you just read together into a fun challenge: Ask your child to summarize the story using only three sentences. Can your child use the characters from the story in a new story?
- 5. Experiment.** Read a variety of books together. If your child is used to reading fiction, try reading a biography or how-to book, for example.



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