

# Daily Learning Planner

Ideas families can use to help children  
do well in school

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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. Time different activities you and your child do today.
- 2. Try a geography challenge with your family. Name a state, province or country. Who can call out the capital first?
- 3. Have your child shape an animal out of five pipe cleaners.
- 4. Have a word of the day. Challenge each family member to use it in a sentence. Make this a daily habit.
- 5. Quiz one another on math facts at the dinner table tonight.
- 6. Help your child find out what's inside a seed. Soak a dry bean overnight, remove the coat and pull the halves apart.
- 7. Make up a song featuring your child's name.
- 8. Today is the anniversary of the Great Chicago Fire of 1871. Develop a family plan in case of a fire in your home.
- 9. It's National School Lunch Week. Talk with your child about nutritious food choices.
- 10. Have a contest: How many words can you and your child make from the letters in OCTOBER?
- 11. Let your child glue craft sticks together to make a picture frame, then use markers to decorate it.
- 12. Have your elementary schooler rub two stones together for 30 seconds. Can your child feel the heat generated? This is caused by *friction*.
- 13. Help your child create a joke collection. Give your child a notebook to fill with jokes you both hear or read.
- 14. Ask your child to choose a country and learn more about it. Help find books about the country at the library.
- 15. Compliment something your child did well today. Make your praise as specific as possible.
- 16. Keep a stash of books in a tote or in your car so your child has something to read when you are on the go.
- 17. Ask your child to write step-by-step directions on how to do something. Follow the directions exactly. Was anything missing?
- 18. Have a contest: Who can name the most parts of the body? (Organs count, too.)
- 19. Get some exercise with your child. Pick an activity you both enjoy, such as kicking a ball around.
- 20. List three of your child's successes this week. List three of your own. Post the lists where you both can see them.
- 21. Have family members change seats at breakfast. Everyone pretend to be the person who usually sits in that chair.
- 22. Make up a secret code with your child. Use it to write notes this week.
- 23. Plan a family trip to a nearby museum.
- 24. Start a sentence-a-day story. In a special notebook, have your child write a story by adding one sentence each day.
- 25. Teach your child how to prepare a healthy after-school snack.
- 26. With your child, learn to say *hello* in two other languages.
- 27. Challenge your child to fold a piece of paper into a usable cup.
- 28. Read a book aloud that you and your child can both enjoy.
- 29. Give your child some string and a button. Can your student thread the string through the button holes and make the button spin?
- 30. Play a game of Concentration using fractions. Fractions with the same value make a pair, such as  $1/2$  and  $2/4$ .
- 31. Talk about the importance of saying *please* and *thank you*.