

PRIME TIME

Parent Newsletter of the
Title I and Intervention Programs
May 2025



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West Blvd
Elementary
School

Daily Learning Planner

Ideas Families Can Use to Help
Children Do Well in School

Try a New Idea Every Day!

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- ☐ 1. Sit in the grass with your child. How many creatures can you find that make their homes in the ground?
- ☐ 2. Challenge your child to figure out a math problem without using pencil and paper or a calculator.
- ☐ 3. It's National Physical Fitness and Sports Month. Enjoy a new fitness activity you can do together as a family.
- ☐ 4. Today is National Weather Observers Day. Go outside and observe the clouds with your child.
- ☐ 5. Create a special holiday just for your family.
- ☐ 6. Praise your child for doing something well today. Make your praise as specific as possible.
- ☐ 7. Challenge each family member to bring an interesting fact to dinner.
- ☐ 8. Ask the school about dates for year-end tests. Make sure your child gets enough sleep in the weeks before.
- ☐ 9. Ask your child to predict the results of flipping a coin 10 times. Try it and compare the outcome to the estimate.
- ☐ 10. Encourage your child to write a letter today to a faraway relative or friend.
- ☐ 11. Help your child pick some flowers (with permission) or pretty weeds and give a bouquet to someone special.
- ☐ 12. Teach your child this stress-relieving strategy: Breathe deeply while slowing counting to 10.
- ☐ 13. With your child, pretend you are in an opera. Sing everything you say to each other today.
- ☐ 14. If your child dawdles, offer a challenge: "Can you complete [the task] before I count to 25?"
- ☐ 15. Help your child learn where your town's water comes from.
- ☐ 16. Watch a movie based on a children's book with your child. Then, read the book together. How are they different?
- ☐ 17. Make sculptures of each other out of clay.
- ☐ 18. Today is International Museum Day. Talk with your child about the value of museums. Visit one locally or online.
- ☐ 19. How many times can your child jump rope without missing? Estimate and then find out!
- ☐ 20. Get some sidewalk chalk. Do math problems outside together.
- ☐ 21. Brainstorm together about how your family could help beautify your neighborhood.
- ☐ 22. Ask your child to draw a map of how to get from your home to school.
- ☐ 23. Help your child find out what's inside a seed. Soak a dry bean overnight, remove the coat and pull the halves apart.
- ☐ 24. Go for a walk or bike ride with your child today. Try to spot things you haven't seen before.
- ☐ 25. Talk about things that used to be hard for your child that are easy now.
- ☐ 26. Help your child figure out the perimeter and area of a room in your home.
- ☐ 27. Talk with your child about the importance of reading all summer long.
- ☐ 28. Encourage your child to write a thank-you note to a favorite teacher.
- ☐ 29. Look for summer camps or programs that your child might enjoy.
- ☐ 30. Talk to your child about the values that are important to you.
- ☐ 31. Review your child's list of goals for this school year. Did your student accomplish them? Make some goals for next year.

Regular School Attendance is Essential Throughout the Year!

As the weather warms up and summer approaches, students often become less focused on schoolwork and more eager for the break. Unfortunately, this can lead to increased absences. The end of the school year is still a crucial time for learning and growth.

Here are four reasons to make sure your child attends school every day:

1. **Learning hasn't stopped.** Teachers are still teaching new content. Attending every school day (except in cases of illness) helps ensure that students meet learning goals. Studies show that students who miss just 10% of the school year in the early grades are still behind their peers when they reach high school.
2. End-of-year **lessons often lay the groundwork for future learning.** Missing these lessons can create significant gaps in understanding and leave your child less prepared.
3. Teachers often plan group projects for the end of the year. These **projects help students learn collaboration, problem solving and responsibility.** These are skills children will need throughout their school careers and in the workplace.
4. Regular **attendance teaches kids to be accountable**—an important quality for adulthood.



SOURCE: E. García and E. Weiss, "Student absenteeism: Who misses school and how missing school matters for performance," Economic Policy Institute.

Reflect on the School Year and Celebrate Your Child's Successes

As the school year winds down, it's a great time to help your child look back, look forward, and celebrate. Here's how:

- **Talk to your child's teacher.** Ask about your child's strengths and weaknesses. How has your student improved? What areas need more work? Ask what you can do to help your child over the summer.
 - **Talk to your child** about the school year. Ask, "What do you think went well? What challenged you the most?" Help your child figure out what changes to make for the upcoming school year.
 - **Review your child's successes.** Look over schoolwork you've saved during the year. Point out how much your child has learned—how many new words, for example. Or, how to add and subtract. Or, how your child's writing has improved.
 - **Help your child set learning goals for the summer,** such as how much time to spend reading daily and which math concepts to work on mastering. Guide your child's choices, based on the suggestions from the teacher.
- **Encourage your child to thank people** who have made the year work—the teacher, school nurse, librarian, food service worker, etc. This boosts appreciation for all of the people who help children learn.
- **Celebrate the year's accomplishments** with a special activity. It doesn't have to be elaborate or cost anything. Just make plans to enjoy one-on-one time with your child.



SOURCE: Elementary School Parents make the difference, May, 2025, Vol. 36, No. 9.