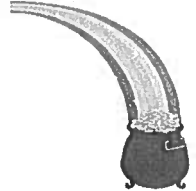


PRIME TIME

Parent Newsletter of the
Title I and Intervention Programs
March 2026

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



West Blvd
Elementary
School

Jerry Gentile
Maria Gentile
Kelly House
Colleen Kather
Hannah Lawrence
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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. Ask your child: "If you had a magic wand, what would you change about the world?"
2. Show how you make the best of a situation. For example, "This power outage is boring. Let's use a flashlight to write letters on the ceiling."
3. Ask your child how the sun helps us (*keeps us warm, helps plants make food*) and can harm us (*sunburn*).
4. Have your child read a news article and report on it at dinner.
5. Encourage your child to demonstrate how to solve a math problem using a method learned in school.
6. Ask your child, "What is the nicest thing a teacher has ever said to you or done for you?"
7. Make up a simple question. Challenge your child to answer with a sentence that rhymes.
8. Help your child collect small twigs and fabric scraps in a mesh bag. Hang it from a tree branch. See if birds take some to build a nest!
9. Encourage your child to sort books by subject using either the public library's system—or one your student creates.
10. Use a ruler to measure each other's heights. Have your child calculate the difference between the two measurements.
11. Start a small change collection in a jar. Brainstorm together about how to use the money when the jar is full.
12. Ask your child to list ideas for a new flavor of ice cream.
13. Build a house of cards with your child. Talk about strategies for making it more stable.
14. Fly a kite together if the weather allows. Or, have your child draw and decorate a picture of a kite.
15. Have your child use a sports announcer voice while reading aloud.
16. Make a crossword puzzle with your child to review vocabulary words.
17. Challenge your child to make up a song about the day at school.
18. Ask your child to reorganize your food cupboard. Discuss different categories the food could be sorted into.
19. Get moving with your child. Skip through the house instead of walking.
20. Trace the outline of a shoe onto paper. Ask your child to use markers or crayons to turn the tracing into a funny picture.
21. Have each member of your family make a "me" paper-bag puppet. Let the puppets act out a variety of situations that might happen.
22. Challenge your child to write an ad for a product your family uses.
23. Ask your child to read you the directions for a recipe.
24. When you watch TV with your child, get moving every time a commercial comes on. Jump up and down, run in place, do sit-ups.
25. Learn to fold some origami animals together.
26. Ask your child to draw a picture of something that brings happiness.
27. Record a video of your child acting out a science concept, like the Earth's motion or the life cycle of a butterfly.
28. Have your child check the weather. Plan an indoor or outdoor picnic.
29. Talk about tricky pairs of letters. Help your child distinguish between *w* and *m*, *n* and *u*, *b* and *d*, *i* and *l*.
30. Have your child point to a country on a world map. Together, figure out what time it is there.
31. Play a game of tic-tac-toe with your child.

Are You Helping Your Student Read Fluently?

Studies consistently show that students who read aloud with fluency are most likely to have a strong understanding of what they've read. Children read fluently if they read aloud smoothly, accurately, and with expression.

Answer *yes* or *no* to the questions below to find out if you are helping your child develop this valuable reading skill. Do you:

1. **Set aside time** for your child to read to you in addition to the time you spend reading aloud?
2. **Let your child pick** what to read? Even if you think it's too easy, your child can practice reading faster.
3. **Read a passage** and then ask your child to read it to you?
4. **Offer help** if your child asks how to pronounce a word and then continue reading?
5. **Discuss a book** after your child is finished reading?



How well are you doing? If most of your answers are yes, you're helping your child develop fluency. For each no answer, try that idea.

SOURCE: Elementary School Parents Make the Difference, Mar. 2026, Vol. 37, No. 7

A Three-Step Plan Can Help Your Child Be More Responsible

Some students struggle with taking responsibility for their schoolwork. This problem can cause stress at home, but by working on it together, you can help your child learn how to be more responsible.

Follow these steps:



1. **Involve your child in identifying a solution.** Start by asking, "You're having trouble remembering assignments. What could you do that would help you keep track of everything for school? Why don't you think about it, and we'll discuss it at dinner."
2. **Let your child try to make the plan work**—without jumping in to help. If your child leaves a book or an assignment at home, resist the urge to rush in and deliver it. Instead, let your child experience and learn from the consequences.
3. **Suggest changes to the plan** if it's not working, but let your child put them into action. You can offer an idea like, "How about we try placing a "launch box" by the door for school items? What do you think of that?"

SOURCE: Elementary School Parents Make the Difference, Mar. 2026, Vol. 37, No. 7