

Daily Learning Planner

*Ideas families can use to help students
do well in school*



THE
PARENT
INSTITUTE®

October 2025

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

- ☐ 1. Ask your child to teach you some slang the kids at school use.
- ☐ 2. Encourage your child to ask at least one question in every class.
- ☐ 3. Talk with your child about a current event in another country. What effects could it have here?
- ☐ 4. If you need to correct your child, do it privately, not in front of peers.
- ☐ 5. See how many words you and your child can use to describe today's weather. For example: *brisk, balmy, breezy, bracing*.
- ☐ 6. Ask your child to draw a diagram and use it to explain a newly learned concept to you.
- ☐ 7. Discuss the many meanings of the word *time*. "It's *time* for dinner," "I had the *time* of my life." What other examples can your child think of?
- ☐ 8. Find quotations that will motivate your child. Post a favorite one on the bathroom mirror.
- ☐ 9. After a test, talk about the questions your child got right. Help your student think about what worked to learn and remember that material.
- ☐ 10. Eliminate distractions during your child's study time.
- ☐ 11. Mention how something you studied in school has helped you at work or in running a household.
- ☐ 12. As a family, spend 20 minutes on DEAR time today (Drop Everything And Read).
- ☐ 13. Say to your child, "If there's anything you want to talk about, remember I'm here to listen."
- ☐ 14. Express your confidence often that your child can learn and do well in school.
- ☐ 15. Encourage your child to take responsibility for schoolwork. Offer only one reminder that it's homework and study time.
- ☐ 16. Play math "Jeopardy" at dinner. Give a number. Who can come up with a problem for which it is the answer?
- ☐ 17. Tell your child why you value education. Discuss your student's long-range goals.
- ☐ 18. Encourage your child to use sticky notes to write down tasks or information to remember.
- ☐ 19. Help your child practice making eye contact when speaking.
- ☐ 20. Take a walk with your child and use all five senses to observe the world around you.
- ☐ 21. Ask which classes your child finds most interesting this year and why.
- ☐ 22. Remind your middle schooler that many short review sessions work better than one long one.
- ☐ 23. Encourage your child to think about abstract concepts, like *character*.
- ☐ 24. Teach your child to use positive self-talk. Phrases such as "I can do this" can help students stay motivated.
- ☐ 25. Everyone makes mistakes. Help your child focus on what can be learned from them.
- ☐ 26. Make today a device-free day. Let your child be responsible for thinking of screen-free activities.
- ☐ 27. Talk with your child about the importance of having self-respect.
- ☐ 28. Teach your child a literary term, such as *onomatopoeia* (when words sound like the objects or actions they refer to—*buzz, drip, swoosh*.)
- ☐ 29. Ask your child to figure out how often your hearts beat in one minute. (Count beats for 15 seconds. Multiply by four.)
- ☐ 30. Have your child read a news article aloud. Exchange opinions about it.
- ☐ 31. Suggest a few activities that your child can do alone.