

Daily Learning Planner

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



THE
PARENT
INSTITUTE®

June • July • August 2021

June 2021

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

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> 1. Tell your child all the ways that being his parent makes you proud. <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Improve communication with your child by being an attentive listener. <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Talk to your child about your values and how they relate to matters such as drugs and sex. <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Encourage your child to do a good deed for someone, like a neighbor or a teacher. <input type="checkbox"/> 5. Help your child start a collection of something (comic books, stamps, spoons). <input type="checkbox"/> 6. Remember that your child needs a parent more than just another friend. <input type="checkbox"/> 7. Help your child research her dream career. How could she attain it? What courses would she need to take to prepare? <input type="checkbox"/> 8. Make an appointment with your child to do something fun together, just the two of you. Write it on your calendar. <input type="checkbox"/> 9. Let your child add freshly squeezed lemon juice to grape juice and watch the color change. <input type="checkbox"/> 10. Discuss important online safety rules with your child, such as never revealing personal information. <input type="checkbox"/> 11. Ask everyone in your family to pick one habit they'd like to start. Practice the new habit for several weeks to help it stick. <input type="checkbox"/> 12. Give your child a new responsibility. Praise him for being mature enough to handle it. <input type="checkbox"/> 13. Challenge your child to find out more about your community's history. <input type="checkbox"/> 14. Talk about honesty and why it is so important. Point to examples of people who demonstrate honesty. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> 15. If your child could learn anything this summer, what would it be? Look for ways to help her try. <input type="checkbox"/> 16. Bow out of power struggles with your child. Let him experience the consequences of misbehavior. <input type="checkbox"/> 17. Teach your child what to do in case of a kitchen fire. <input type="checkbox"/> 18. Test observation skills. Challenge your child to describe someone you both just passed on the street. <input type="checkbox"/> 19. Can your child name some elected officials from your state or province? If not, help her do some research. <input type="checkbox"/> 20. Search online for simple science experiments your child can do at home. Try one together. <input type="checkbox"/> 21. Tell your child why you value education. <input type="checkbox"/> 22. Ask your child what he thinks is the greatest invention of all time. <input type="checkbox"/> 23. Help your child learn about the parts of an orchestra. <input type="checkbox"/> 24. Discuss a controversial issue with your child. Ask, "What do you think?" <input type="checkbox"/> 25. Ask your child to document her summer. She can keep a journal, take photos or make a video. <input type="checkbox"/> 26. Help your child open a bank account. Explain how to keep track of deposits and withdrawals. <input type="checkbox"/> 27. Ask your child to think about his accomplishments. <input type="checkbox"/> 28. Give your child a sketchbook. Have her draw things that inspire her. <input type="checkbox"/> 29. Write a nice note to your child and place it where he won't expect it. <input type="checkbox"/> 30. Play a game together that builds math skills, such as cards or dominoes. |
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July 2021

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- ☐ 1. Give your child a book and ask her to look at just the cover. After she reads the book, have her compare it to her first impressions.
- ☐ 2. Are you away from home during the day? Review with your child what to do during an emergency.
- ☐ 3. Ask your child what he would do with one million dollars.
- ☐ 4. Read the Declaration of Independence with your child today. Talk about why it was written.
- ☐ 5. Ask your child to teach you a skill, such as how to multiply fractions.
- ☐ 6. Remind your child to use you as an excuse if necessary: "My mom wants me home. Sorry."
- ☐ 7. Declare this an Acts of Kindness Day. Make a special effort to be kind to everyone.
- ☐ 8. Drugs can be deadly the first time kids use them. Give your child the facts about the dangers of drugs.
- ☐ 9. Ask your child, "If you could improve one thing about yourself, what would it be?"
- ☐ 10. Try to have a rhyming conversation with your child.
- ☐ 11. Thank your child for helping out with family responsibilities.
- ☐ 12. Choose a food that is new to your family. Ask your child to help you prepare it for dinner.
- ☐ 13. Make up trivia questions about your family. Quiz one another at the dinner table.
- ☐ 14. List your priorities in life, including family. Does your schedule reflect what's most important?
- ☐ 15. Have your child put white paper in one foil pan and black paper in another. Place an ice cube on each. See which melts first in the sun.
- ☐ 16. Ask your child, "What do you wish we did differently at home?" Be open to her suggestions.
- ☐ 17. Show your child your utility bills. Have him chart the monthly amounts of water, gas and/or electricity your family uses.
- ☐ 18. Learn a strategy game, such as chess, with your child. Play it often during summer vacation.
- ☐ 19. Give your child stress-relieving tips, such as counting to 10 silently when angry.
- ☐ 20. Ask your child what she would do if a friend of hers stole something from a store.
- ☐ 21. Get up early and watch the sunrise with your child.
- ☐ 22. See if your child can list the planets other than Earth.
- ☐ 23. Bring paper and a pen on a walk. Have your child find something he likes and describe it in detail.
- ☐ 24. If your child has strong opinions on an issue in the community, encourage her to write a letter to an elected official.
- ☐ 25. Have your child write a proposal for a privilege he has requested.
- ☐ 26. Let your child see you reading often.
- ☐ 27. Ask to see your child's summer reading list. How many books has she read so far?
- ☐ 28. Teach your child how to make one of your family's favorite recipes.
- ☐ 29. Have your child look up the month names (January, February, etc.) and find out the origin of each.
- ☐ 30. Mention how something you learned in school has helped you as an adult.
- ☐ 31. Can your child name all 50 states? Help him!

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August 2021

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- ☐ 1. Plan to get some exercise with your child every day this month.
- ☐ 2. Play a guessing game with your child—Twenty Questions, I Spy—whatever she'd like.
- ☐ 3. Check the school website to find out what supplies your child will need. Watch for back-to-school sales.
- ☐ 4. Remember that children learn from your actions more than your words. Focus on setting a good example.
- ☐ 5. Ask your child to write about a place he would like to visit one day.
- ☐ 6. Establish times at home when using digital devices is not allowed, such as during mealtimes.
- ☐ 7. Remind your child of a time when persistence helped her succeed.
- ☐ 8. Talk about your child's goals for the coming school year. Post the list where you and your child can see it often.
- ☐ 9. Have your child write down the temperature each day for a week. Have him figure out the average temperature.
- ☐ 10. Get your child into a healthy sleeping routine for school. Have her go to bed earlier and get up earlier in the morning.
- ☐ 11. Challenge your child to walk someplace instead of being driven.
- ☐ 12. "Because I said so!" is frustrating for middle schoolers to hear. Instead, explain your reasoning.
- ☐ 13. Teach your child to help you with car maintenance tasks.
- ☐ 14. Talk with your child about things that may be different about school this fall.
- ☐ 15. Have your child write a list of words that can be used to describe something *exciting*.
- ☐ 16. Point out an example of prejudice to your child. Talk about ways to respond to intolerance.
- ☐ 17. Give your child a hug today and every day.
- ☐ 18. Watch the news on TV with your child. Choose one story and compare it with a newspaper article on the same topic.
- ☐ 19. Think of ways you and your child waste time. Together, brainstorm ways to improve.
- ☐ 20. Talk about your child's summer. Can he name three things he learned?
- ☐ 21. Ask your child to teach you how to play her favorite game.
- ☐ 22. Go on a nature walk with your child. Look for things you have never noticed before.
- ☐ 23. Give your child a say in making a family decision.
- ☐ 24. Teach your child a favorite song from when you were his age.
- ☐ 25. Visit the website of the high school your child will attend. Discuss the classes and activities that interest her.
- ☐ 26. Write upcoming school events on your calendar. Make plans to participate in as many as you can.
- ☐ 27. Spend a few minutes talking with your child at bedtime. This is a relaxing time for conversation.
- ☐ 28. Explore an old cemetery with your child. Talk about the time periods on the headstones.
- ☐ 29. Help your child establish a study area for the new school year.
- ☐ 30. Have your child convert the miles you travel today into kilometers.
- ☐ 31. Watch a TV show with your child. Notice how men and women are portrayed. Are the characters realistic?

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