Middle School

Daily Learning Planner

Ideas families can use to help students do well in school

Newark Public Schools

THE PARENT INSTITUTE®

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

1. Learn a magic trick with your child.
2. Ask how your child feels the school year is going so far.
3. Offer to drive when your child is going somewhere with friends. Quietly listening can provide insight into your child's life.
4. Establish a regular bedtime for your child. Making it part of an overall nighttime routine will make it easier to stick to.
5. Allow your middle schooler some privacy. Knock before entering your child's room.
6. Teach your child a game that involves math skills, such as chess or mah-jongg.
7. Challenge your child to use the dictionary to find as many five-syllable words as possible in 10 minutes.
8. Take a family walk. Have your child use a compass or compass app to keep track of which way you are going.
9. Designate a place in your home to keep library books. Your child will always know where to look for something to read.
10. Make a supply kit for school projects with your child. Keeping basic items on hand can reduce last-minute shopping trips.
11. Say "thank you" for something your middle schooler did today.
12. Mention how something you studied in school has helped you at work.
13. Ask what the word *success* means to your middle schooler. Discuss different ways to think about success.
14. Show your child how to break large assignments into smaller, more manageable parts.
15. Challenge your child to tell you how washing hands prevents the spread of many diseases.
16. When shopping with your child, demonstrate how you use math to find the best deals.
17. Have each member of your family create a collage from magazine pictures. See if family members can guess who made which one.
18. Ask what activity your child most enjoys doing as a family. Plan to do it.
19. National School Bus Safety Week begins today. Review safety rules with your child.
20. Browse through your child's school books and talk about concepts your student is studying. Show enthusiasm and interest.
21. Talk with your child about mistakes. What are some ways people can learn from their mistakes?
22. Ask your child, "Who is your favorite author and why?"
23. Let your child take over a new responsibility. Explain why your middle schooler is ready.
24. It's Make a Difference Day. Talk about ways your family could help make your community a nicer place.
25. Ask your child a thought-provoking question, such as "What do you think food will be like in the future?"
26. Start a long-term project with your child, such as a jigsaw puzzle. Don't give up.
27. Admit and apologize to your child when you're wrong.
28. Ask about your child's hardest school subject. What might make it easier?
29. Start a family scrapbook.
30. Help your child make a savings plan for a special purchase.
31. Schedule some one-on-one time with your child today.

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