

# Daily Learning Planner

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

Title I Program  
Elgin Public Schools



THE  
**PARENT**  
INSTITUTE®

## December 2021

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

1. Holidays have you feeling hassled? Share the responsibility. As kids help, they appreciate holidays even more.
2. Have your child draw a scene from a book onto a narrow piece of cardboard to make a bookmark.
3. Ask your child, "If you could go anywhere, where would you go and why?" Together, do some research to learn more about this location.
4. If your family will be seeing older relatives this month, have your child talk to them about their school days.
5. Begin telling your child a story, and when you get to an exciting part, stop. Let her make up the rest.
6. Teach your child how to cut out paper snowflakes. Use some to decorate your windows.
7. Talk with your child about the nicest thing someone has ever done for him. What made it special?
8. Ask your child to give you an "evening news report" about her day. What's the lead story?
9. Name a state, province or country. Who can call out the capital first?
10. Have your child pick a word, then put its letters in alphabetical order.
11. Plan a device-free day. Let your child choose alternative activities.
12. Have your child compare the prices of two sizes of the same product. Which is the better buy?
13. Challenge family members to write, eat or do other activities with the hand they don't favor.
14. Discuss nutrition. Have your child name five foods that are healthy, then two foods that taste good but are not healthy.
15. Enjoy some physical activity with your child.
16. Tonight, have your child draw the moon's shape. Is it a crescent, full circle, half circle?
17. Ask your child to estimate how many times he blinks in a minute, then count to see.
18. Pay your child a genuine, specific compliment today.
19. With your child, think of words that sound like what they mean, such as *buzz*, *smash*, *hiss* and *thump*.
20. Have your child write a poem or story from the point of view of a pet.
21. Ask about qualities your child values in friends. Talk about why values are important.
22. Do body arithmetic. Ask your child how much her fingers, knees, toes and nose add up to.
23. Cut apart the frames of a comic strip and ask your child to arrange the pieces in the right order.
24. Bake cookies with your child. If you're doubling a recipe, have your child do the math.
25. Read a book aloud that you and your child can both enjoy.
26. Talk about the free or low-cost activities your family enjoyed most during 2021. If possible, make plans to do them again in 2022.
27. Ask for your child's help with a household task, such as making dinner.
28. Talk with your child about people he admires and why he does.
29. Have your child write step-by-step directions for making a sandwich. Then follow them exactly. Did they work?
30. Ask what your child would like to make an annual tradition. Start it!
31. Find interesting pictures of people. Ask your child to write captions.