

Daily Learning Planner

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

Holtville Middle School



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. Have a Device-Free Day. Do activities with your child such as reading or cooking.
- 2. Offer encouragement when your child faces challenges. Say “You can do it,” or “Go for it!”
- 3. Do everyday tasks with your child, such as washing dishes, to gain more time together.
- 4. Play Alphabet Mix up. Choose a word, then rearrange the letters in alphabetical order. Can your child figure out the word?
- 5. Plan a seasonal family activity together.
- 6. Take turns making statements. Have your child identify each one as either *fact* or *opinion*.
- 7. Use math-related terms in conversation, such as *parallel* and *intersect*.
- 8. Think of synonyms for common words with your child. For example, one synonym for *talk* is *converse*.
- 9. On this day in 1962, the Petrified Forest National Park was established in Arizona. Learn about its fossil marvels with your child.
- 10. Encourage your child to compare prices and return policies before making a purchase.
- 11. Suggest that your child write a portion of your family’s year-end letter to send to family and friends.
- 12. When you watch TV or videos with your child, ask questions: “Did that person make a good decision?” “What would you do?”
- 13. Put your child in charge of taking photos at a family event.
- 14. When arguing with your child, focus more on solutions than blame.
- 15. Give your child a “do-it-yourself” gift. For example, a model kit or a book of recipes for children.
- 16. Let your child pick out an unfamiliar vegetable at the store. Find a recipe that uses it and give it a try!
- 17. Discuss the importance of responsibility with your child. What would happen if everyone were irresponsible?
- 18. Have your child time how long a car trip takes. How many miles did you drive? What was your average speed?
- 19. Check up on academic goals. Is your child making progress?
- 20. Teach your child to ask *who*, *what*, *when*, *where*, *why* and *how* questions when doing research.
- 21. Help your child plan a relaxing end-of-day reading routine.
- 22. Hang a chalkboard in your home. It’s a fun place to practice math problems or leave notes for family members.
- 23. Do a secret good deed with your child.
- 24. Brainstorm with your family about an issue, such as how to assign chores fairly.
- 25. Ask everyone to write down two positive things about each member of the family. Don’t forget to include yourself.
- 26. Post a meaningful quotation you love where your child will see it.
- 27. Talk about people who have shown integrity. How did they show it?
- 28. Teach your child how to prepare a favorite dish. Feeling competent makes a middle schooler feel good.
- 29. Talk with your child about a choice you have made. Then talk about the consequences.
- 30. Suggest that your child write a descriptive story with lots of details.
- 31. Ask if there is a school subject your child would like to improve in.