

# Daily Learning Planner

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

Hillcrest Elementary School



THE  
**PARENT**  
INSTITUTE®

## December 2023

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

1. Read a book of folktales with your child today.
2. Set aside time to work on craft projects together. Perhaps your child can give these as gifts.
3. Talk with your child about what it means to be courageous. Look for examples of people who demonstrate courage.
4. Make your own seasonal greeting cards. With your child, read some cards in stores for ideas, then write your own messages.
5. Make a paper chain to count down the number of days left until January 1. Have your child count the links and remove one each day.
6. Recreate a tradition from your own childhood. Share it with your child.
7. Put several items in a bag. Have your child and a friend or sibling reach in and choose three to use as props for a five-minute skit.
8. Plan a screen-free evening. Play Simon Says together instead.
9. Talk with your child about a choice you've made and the consequence of that choice.
10. Have your child replace the adjectives on a printed ad with their opposites.
11. Ask what your child would do if friends suggested stealing a candy bar.
12. Many people celebrate holidays in December. What holidays can your child name? Talk about why they are special.
13. Show your child which direction is *north*, *south*, *east* and *west*.
14. What is the coldest place in the nation today? The warmest? What's the difference between the two temperatures? Find out together.
15. Look through family photos together. Tell stories about the pictures.
16. Bake cookies with your child. If you're doubling a recipe, have your child do the math.
17. At dinner, ask family members to pick five words to describe themselves.
18. Talk with your child about how animals survive the winter months. What do bears do? How about birds?
19. Have your child make a list of things to do when there's nothing to do.
20. Take a walk with your child. Look for things you only see in December.
21. Ask your child to write your shopping list before you go to the market.
22. Have a family sing-along. Ask family members to share their favorite songs.
23. Have your child make a snowman picture using cotton balls and glue.
24. Ask what your child's favorite winter activity is. If possible, make plans to do it together.
25. Tuck a loving note under a pillow for your child to find at bedtime.
26. Talk to your child about the importance of writing thank-you notes for gifts.
27. Begin telling a story. When you get to an exciting part, stop talking and let your child make up the rest.
28. Ask about the very best present your child ever received. What made it special?
29. With your child, listen to music in the dark. Concentrate on the sounds.
30. Post a vocabulary word and its definition on the bathroom mirror. Change it every three or four days.
31. Measure your child. How much did your student grow this year?