

Daily Learning Planner

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

Student Support Services



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. Ask your child to tell you how to get from one place to another. Follow his directions together to see if they are accurate.
- 2. Remind your child that school is her job. It comes before sports, hobbies and recreational screen time.
- 3. Talk with your child about a current event that is happening out of the country. How could it affect you? Could it happen here?
- 4. Your child may be facing important tests this month. Make sure he gets enough sleep the night before.
- 5. Point out the position of the sun. See if your child knows what it can tell you.
- 6. Listen to your child's concerns and acknowledge her feelings, but discourage whining.
- 7. Ask how many two-scoop combinations your child can make with three flavors of ice cream. Try one together.
- 8. Do you have to drive your child to activities? Use car time to talk.
- 9. Give your child a history lesson. What was life like 30 years ago?
- 10. Ask your child to guess which ingredients or vitamins are in a food. Then check the label.
- 11. Challenge your child to walk someplace (if safety allows) instead of being driven.
- 12. Ask your child: "Do you think honesty is always the best policy? Why or why not?"
- 13. Go on a nature walk with your child. Can you each find things you have never seen before?
- 14. Don't criticize or correct your child in front of his peers.
- 15. Brainstorm together about where you'd go on a dream vacation.
- 16. Today, talk to your child as you would to a friend or co-worker. How does she respond?
- 17. Play the Fame Game with your child. Take turns calling out names of famous people and guessing what they did. Then look them up.
- 18. Memorize a poem or quotation with your child today.
- 19. Does your child know how to swim? If not, look into lessons.
- 20. What are your child's special interests? Help him find books and articles about these topics.
- 21. Ask your child to research organizations she'd like to volunteer for.
- 22. Skim your child's homework or class notes and ask him questions to help him review.
- 23. Talk with your child about something you recently learned.
- 24. Give your child a plan for handling mistakes: Admit them, fix them, learn from them, and figure out how to avoid repeating them.
- 25. See if your child can think of *homophones*—words that sound alike, but mean different things. For example, *sail* and *sale*.
- 26. Is your child getting enough exercise? Take a brisk walk together today.
- 27. Challenge your child to classify living animals she sees: *amphibian*, *mammal*, *bird*, *reptile*, *fish*, *insect* or *invertebrate*.
- 28. Help your child make a to-do list for the rest of the school year. Organization is a stepping stone to independence.
- 29. Ask your child what he thinks is the greatest invention, and why.
- 30. Agree on an adult friend who your child can call if she doesn't feel comfortable asking you for advice.
- 31. If your child could learn anything this summer, what would it be?