

Daily Learning Planner

Ideas families can use to help children
do well in school

Northside Elementary School



THE
PARENT
INSTITUTE®

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

- 1. Have a silly supper tonight. Grab a blanket and sit on the floor. Serve finger foods such as fruit, carrot sticks, cheese and popcorn.
- 2. April is Mathematics and Statistics Awareness Month. Take time to talk about math with your child each day this month.
- 3. Correct mistakes in a positive way. "You got everything right except these two questions. I bet you can learn them, too!"
- 4. Have your child fill a container with water, then pour it into a differently shaped container. Does the quantity of water look different?
- 5. Help your child figure out the perimeter and area of a room in your home.
- 6. Listen to a piece of music that has no lyrics. Have your child write lyrics for the song.
- 7. Help your child interview people in various careers that seem interesting. What would a typical day be like?
- 8. Learn the sign language alphabet with your child. Use it to practice spelling words today.
- 9. Have your child think of words that rhyme with *rain*.
- 10. Ask, "What is the most beautiful place you have ever seen?" Have your child describe it.
- 11. Point to a country on a globe or a map. Help your child figure out what time it is there.
- 12. Talk about *honesty* and why it is so important. Point to examples of people who demonstrate honesty.
- 13. Have everyone bring a joke to the dinner table. Laughter is the best dinner music!
- 14. Take an early morning walk with your child. Look for signs of spring.
- 15. Ask your child, "What is the nicest thing you have done for someone in our family?"
- 16. Gather some pictures your child can cut up. Have your child cut out items with 90 degree angles and make a collage of them.
- 17. Help your child see the bright side of a difficult situation. "This line is long, but it gives us time to play a game while we wait."
- 18. Check on your child's grades. If necessary, help your student raise them before the year ends.
- 19. Have your child write math facts on the sidewalk with chalk.
- 20. Have 20 minutes of DEAR time today. This is a time when family members Drop Everything And Read.
- 21. Measure how far your child can jump. Can your student estimate how many jumps it would take to go around your house?
- 22. As a family, discuss steps you can take to conserve natural resources.
- 23. Teach your child about *homographs*—words that are spelled the same but have different meanings, such as *bass* (fish and instrument).
- 24. Find a new way to say "I love you" to your child—for example, in sign language or in secret code.
- 25. Ask your child, "What do you think middle school will be like?"
- 26. Choose a recipe from another country or culture. Prepare it together.
- 27. Help your child measure something with a ruler. Count the inches.
- 28. Ask your child, "What do you think is the best part of being a parent?"
- 29. Together, find out which is the oldest building in your town and visit it.
- 30. Play a game of charades with your child. Use hand gestures and motions to describe your word.