

Daily Learning Planner

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

Mount Vernon City School District



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: "If you had a magic wand, what would you change about the world?"
2. Show how you make the best of a situation. For example, "This power outage is boring. Let's use a flashlight to write letters on the ceiling."
3. Ask your child how the sun helps us (*keeps us warm, helps plants make food*) and can harm us (*sunburn*).
4. Have your child read a news article and report on it at dinner.
5. Encourage your child to demonstrate how to solve a math problem using a method learned in school.
6. Ask your child, "What is the nicest thing a teacher has ever said to you or done for you?"
7. Make up a simple question. Challenge your child to answer with a sentence that rhymes.
8. Help your child collect small twigs and fabric scraps in a mesh bag. Hang it from a tree branch. See if birds take some to build a nest!
9. Encourage your child to sort books by subject using either the public library's system—or one your student creates.
10. Use a ruler to measure each other's heights. Have your child calculate the difference between the two measurements.
11. Start a small change collection in a jar. Brainstorm together about how to use the money when the jar is full.
12. Ask your child to list ideas for a new flavor of ice cream.
13. Build a house of cards with your child. Talk about strategies for making it more stable.
14. Fly a kite together if the weather allows. Or, have your child draw and decorate a picture of a kite.
15. Have your child use a sports announcer voice while reading aloud.
16. Make a crossword puzzle with your child to review vocabulary words.
17. Challenge your child to make up a song about the day at school.
18. Ask your child to reorganize your food cupboard. Discuss different categories the food could be sorted into.
19. Get moving with your child. Skip through the house instead of walking.
20. Trace the outline of a shoe onto paper. Ask your child to use markers or crayons to turn the tracing into a funny picture.
21. Have each member of your family make a "me" paper-bag puppet. Let the puppets act out a variety of situations that might happen.
22. Challenge your child to write an ad for a product your family uses.
23. Ask your child to read you the directions for a recipe.
24. When you watch TV with your child, get moving every time a commercial comes on. Jump up and down, run in place, do sit-ups.
25. Learn to fold some origami animals together.
26. Ask your child to draw a picture of something that brings happiness.
27. Record a video of your child acting out a science concept, like the Earth's motion or the life cycle of a butterfly.
28. Have your child check the weather. Plan an indoor or outdoor picnic.
29. Talk about tricky pairs of letters. Help your child distinguish between *w* and *m*, *n* and *u*, *b* and *d*, *i* and *l*.
30. Have your child point to a country on a world map. Together, figure out what time it is there.
31. Play a game of tic-tac-toe with your child.