

# Daily Learning Planner

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

Mount Vernon City School District



THE  
**PARENT**  
INSTITUTE®

## March 2026

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

1. Talk with your teen about everyday strategies you use to save money—buying in bulk, using coupons, comparing prices at different stores, etc.
2. Encourage your teen to take responsibility for schoolwork. Give only one reminder about assignments that are due.
3. Ask your teen, “What do you think you will be like when you are 25 years old?”
4. Encourage your teen to review class notes every day. It’s easier to clarify and study them while the class material is fresh in mind.
5. Encourage your teen to visit the school’s career center.
6. The next time you’re upset with your teen, start a sentence with “I love you” and don’t say “but . . .”
7. Help your teen find opportunities to volunteer in your community.
8. Take a walk with your teen. Look for signs of spring.
9. Help your teen open up a checking account.
10. Talk together about the trusted adults your teen can go to for advice.
11. Show your teen that responsible people live up to commitments. Keep the promises you make to your teen.
12. Ask your teen: “What is one way you have become a stronger writer this year? What’s another writing skill you’d like to improve?”
13. Have your teen estimate how many bowls of cereal can be poured from one box. Keep track until the box is empty.
14. Help your teen brainstorm ways to make new friends at school—joining a club, saying hi to new people, discussing classes, etc.
15. Challenge your teen to give someone a compliment today.
16. Ask what your teen likes best about school life.
17. Encourage your teen to find your house on Google Earth. What places in the world are at the same latitude? Longitude?
18. Talk with your teen of the long-term benefits of school achievement.
19. If your teen is faced with a big decision, talk about it within the context of your family’s values.
20. Have everyone in the family spend 15 minutes cleaning up the house. Many hands make light work.
21. Explore the public library’s local history section with your teen.
22. At the market, choose a food that is new to your family. Ask your teen to help you prepare it.
23. Read a favorite children’s book with your teen. There are still lessons to be learned.
24. Invite your teen to run an errand with you. Use travel time to talk.
25. Have a discussion with your teen about ways each of you could improve your listening skills.
26. Ask your teen: “If you could trade lives with somebody you know, who would it be? Why?”
27. Challenge your teen to walk someplace instead of driving.
28. Encourage your teen to interview older relatives about their lives.
29. Does your teen dawdle while doing schoolwork? Suggest setting a timer to stay on track.
30. Have your teen search online for science experiments that can be done at home and pick one to try.
31. Today, mention something specific you appreciate about your teen.