

Daily Learning Planner

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

The School District, City of Erie
Federal Programs



THE
PARENT
INSTITUTE®

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

- 1. Teach your child how to prepare nutritious after-school snacks.
- 2. Find a book or website that describes holidays around the world. Choose a new holiday for your family to observe, or invent one.
- 3. Let your child pick a color and try to spot it everywhere he goes today.
- 4. Resist the urge to schedule all of your child's time. Kids need downtime to think, imagine and play.
- 5. Watch a TV show with your child. Talk about decisions the characters made. What would your child have done?
- 6. Talk with your child about mistakes. Tell her that learning from mistakes makes people smarter.
- 7. With your child, learn more about an interesting news story.
- 8. Have a music-sharing night. Share your favorite music with each other. Talk about how it makes you feel.
- 9. Ask family members to write down two positive things about each member of the family. Read your lists aloud at dinner.
- 10. Help your child make her own dictionary with her spelling or vocabulary words.
- 11. Ask your child to write directions for making a sandwich. Then, follow them exactly.
- 12. Have your child look at a group of various objects on a tray. Then, have him close his eyes and name as many as he can remember.
- 13. Challenge your child to invent something that will make life easier.
- 14. At dinner, discuss the best and the worst parts of everyone's day. Give each family member a turn to share.
- 15. Show your child how to take her pulse. Have her jump up and down 15 times and take it again. Has it changed?
- 16. Talk to your child about ways to resist peer pressure to cheat.
- 17. Have everyone pitch in for a half-hour "blitz" of house cleaning. It teaches children responsibility.
- 18. Suggest that your child write a story from an unusual point of view, such as a birthday party from a present's point of view.
- 19. Ask your child to name his favorite sport. What does he like about it?
- 20. Make a special effort to reinforce manners today. Remind family members to say *please*, *thank you* and *excuse me*.
- 21. Talk with your child about a book she likes.
- 22. Make a list of all the things that make your family thankful.
- 23. Have your child read to you as you're cleaning up after dinner. Or read to your child as he cleans up!
- 24. At the grocery store, have your child compare two sizes of the same product. Which is the best buy?
- 25. Ask your child to name places where water is found.
- 26. Create a word search by hiding words in a grid and surrounding them with random letters. Let your child find the words.
- 27. Tell your child some family stories as you show her family pictures.
- 28. Ask your child which famous historical person he'd like to be. Why?
- 29. Challenge your child to do a secret good deed for someone.
- 30. Find a kid-friendly recipe. Help your child make it today.

Helping Children Learn
Tips Families Can Use to Help Children Do Better in School

