

Daily Learning Planner

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

Stanley Elementary School
Provided by Title I



THE
PARENT
INSTITUTE®

September • October • November 2019

September 2019

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

1. Make an appointment to spend some one-on-one time with your child this month. Write it on your calendar.
2. Set aside time every day for reading aloud. Sometimes, have your child read to you.
3. Ask your child, "What one thing makes you feel really excited?"
4. Write a note saying something nice about your child. Tuck it where he will find it later.
5. Draw a picture with your child today. Hang it on the refrigerator.
6. Write upcoming school events on your family calendar. Plan to attend as many as you can.
7. Cut out four pictures from a magazine. Ask your child to tell you a story that involves something from each picture.
8. On Sunday nights, talk with your child about the week ahead.
9. Ask your child, "If you could go anywhere, where would you go?"
10. Make a special effort to reinforce manners today. Remind family members to say *please* and *thank you*.
11. Watch a funny video with your child. Then have her draw a comic strip showing what it was about.
12. Have a 20-minute family DEAR time (Drop Everything And Read).
13. Name different types of punctuation with your child. Then have him find examples in a book or newspaper.
14. Keep a notebook handy when watching TV. Have your child jot down new words she hears and look them up later.
15. Be sure you and your child know school rules. Talk about one today.
16. Ask your child, "What are your three favorite songs?"
17. Choose a place by the front door for items that go to school. Help your child get into the habit of putting things there each day.
18. Talk about *honesty* and why it is so important at home and at school.
19. Invent a word with your child. Write a silly definition.
20. Tonight at dinner, put a "price" on each item you serve. Have your child figure out the total cost of the meal.
21. Go outside. Show your child which way is *north, south, east* and *west*.
22. Pick a word from the dictionary and draw a picture of it. See if your child can guess the word. Then switch roles.
23. "Adopt" a neighborhood tree. With your child, watch it throughout the year. Talk about how it looks, feels and even smells.
24. Together, write a poem about your family. Start each line with a letter from the word FAMILY.
25. Make a jigsaw puzzle with your child. Glue a picture from a magazine onto cardboard. Cut it into puzzle pieces.
26. Have your child put a leafy stalk of celery into colored water. Watch the color rise into the stalk over the next week.
27. Play "guess that number" together: How many grapes in a bunch?
28. Today, have your child keep track of everything he eats. Together, think of ways to make his diet more nutritious.
29. Tell your child three things that you love about her.
30. Review spelling words with your child tonight.

Helping Children Learn

Tips Families Can Use to Help Children Do Better in School



October 2019

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

- 1. Plan a family talent show. Have everyone practice their acts this week.
- 2. When your child comes home, have him draw something that happened in school. Then talk about it.
- 3. Role-play a sticky situation with your child. What would she do if her friends were teasing someone at school?
- 4. Tell your child about a choice you made. Talk about the consequences.
- 5. Do a crossword or other word puzzle with your child.
- 6. Help your child start a collection. Provide a place to keep it—a box, a shelf, a drawer.
- 7. Consider giving your child an allowance. Discuss how it should be used, such as for saving, buying things and giving to charity.
- 8. Read three poems with your child today.
- 9. Review math facts at the dinner table tonight.
- 10. Take a walk. Can you and your child identify the trees you pass?
- 11. Ask your child to predict how long tasks and activities will take today, then time them.
- 12. Help your child round up some friends and play a game outside.
- 13. Look through the newspaper with your child. Which headlines interest him? Read an article together and discuss it.
- 14. A nutritious breakfast helps kids learn. Make sure your child starts the day with a healthy breakfast at home or at school.
- 15. When your child brings home schoolwork, focus on what is right before noting what is wrong.
- 16. Pretend your child is mayor for a day. Ask her how she would make your community a better place.

- 17. Together, make up a song featuring your child's name.
- 18. Have your child dissolve a teaspoon of salt in a few teaspoons of water in a shallow dish. What happens when the liquid evaporates?
- 19. At dinner, ask each family member to share the week's experiences.
- 20. When you're in the store, ask your child to figure how much tax you will be charged.
- 21. Have your child glue craft sticks together to make a frame and use buttons and markers to decorate it.
- 22. Ask your child to measure and record the dimensions of a variety of objects in your home.
- 23. Brainstorm together to come up with words with both a prefix and a suffix (such as *replacement*).
- 24. With your child, learn how to count to 10 in at least three languages.
- 25. Put on music and spend 15 minutes drawing or writing with your child. Let the music be your inspiration.
- 26. Let your child pick the book you will read together today.
- 27. Challenge your child to build an animal out of five pipe cleaners.
- 28. Ask your child *how* and *why* questions to give him practice reasoning.
- 29. Get some exercise with your child. Pick an activity you both enjoy.
- 30. Talk with your child about ways to handle stress, such as by taking deep breaths or talking about problems.
- 31. Make up a story with your child.

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November 2019

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

- 1. Let your child see you reading for pleasure.
- 2. Have a jump rope contest today. See how many jumps your child can do in a row.
- 3. Set aside some time today to work on a hobby with your child.
- 4. Read a textbook assignment with your child. Then ask her to tell you about it in her own words.
- 5. Is your child behaving well? Be sure to say how proud this makes you.
- 6. Make your child laugh! Tell a joke, read a funny story or poem, sing a silly song or draw a cartoon.
- 7. Give your child a calendar. Teach him to write down assignments, tests dates and school activities.
- 8. Play a game of charades with your child. Use hand gestures and motions to convey words and phrases.
- 9. Help your child figure out the average time she spends reading per day.
- 10. Take a fraction walk with your child and write down what you see: $\frac{3}{7}$ of the cars on your block are blue, $\frac{4}{5}$ of the houses have a gray roof.
- 11. Start a kitchen band. Use spoons, pans and lids for instruments. March around the house together.
- 12. Talk with your child about important events in the news.
- 13. Make up new compound words for familiar things. Perhaps your cat is a *purrucuddler*.
- 14. When your child is unsuccessful at something, ask, "How could you do it differently next time?"
- 15. Listen to music without lyrics. What does it make your child think of?
- 16. Let your child plan dinner. How many food groups can he include?

- 17. Help your child make a list of things, such as colors. Then have her put them in alphabetical order.
- 18. Have your child teach you something he needs to learn for homework. It's a great way to reinforce learning.
- 19. Play tic-tac-toe with your child.
- 20. Look over your child's homework. Give specific compliments and helpful criticism.
- 21. Encourage your child to write a thank-you note to someone who has helped her.
- 22. Talk to your child about peer pressure. Role-play ways to say *no* to things he knows are wrong.
- 23. Visit the library with your child. Check out a book about oceans.
- 24. Ask your child to write a story from the point of view of a pet.
- 25. Look for ways to volunteer as a family. Ask your child to help decide what to do.
- 26. Challenge your child to determine the direction of the wind by using a wet finger or by watching things blow.
- 27. Ask your child to tell *you* a bedtime story tonight.
- 28. At dinner, have everyone compliment each person at the table.
- 29. Display your child's best schoolwork. Change the display often.
- 30. Help your child use the internet to research events that occurred on the day she was born.

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