

# Daily Learning Planner

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

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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. Celebrate Be Kind to Animals Week. With your child, do something nice for your family pet or feed the birds in a park.
- 2. Ask your child, "What do you think is the best part about being a parent?"
- 3. Have your child quiz *you* on something she is studying in school.
- 4. Make sure your child has time each day just to relax.
- 5. Challenge your child to look for examples of *tolerance* and *intolerance* in the newspaper or on the news today.
- 6. At the library, check out a book about origami—the Japanese art of paper folding. Together, try to make some interesting shapes.
- 7. Let your child add a few raisins to a glass of clear soda. Watch them rise when bubbles collect on them and fall when the bubbles pop.
- 8. Ask the school about the schedule for end-of-year tests. Make sure your child eats a good breakfast those days.
- 9. Take a magnifying glass outside. Let your child look at insects through it.
- 10. With your child, make up a new unit of measurement. How many fingers long is your child's desk?
- 11. Ask your child to add up all the change in your pocket or purse. Help him practice making change.
- 12. It's Limerick Day. Challenge family members to write a funny limerick.
- 13. Play music while your family does chores today.
- 14. Have your child make a list of phrases she can use to express anger without hurting feelings.
- 15. Try spending an entire day without modern technology. What can your family do instead?
- 16. Plan a picnic with your child for next weekend.
- 17. Challenge your child to invent something that will make life easier.
- 18. Ask your child to teach you how to play a game.
- 19. Have your child hold his nose while he eats. Does it affect the taste? Explain that we use the senses of taste and smell to perceive flavor.
- 20. Visit the oldest building in town with your child. Discuss local history.
- 21. Have your child write a list of the TV shows you agree she may watch this week. Stick to the list.
- 22. Give your child a big hug today.
- 23. Plant a windowsill garden with your child.
- 24. Play a board game that uses math, such as Monopoly or Parcheesi.
- 25. Watch a TV show with your child. Ask questions such as, "Why do you think that character did that?"
- 26. Go on a "people scavenger hunt." Help your child meet or write to people who have skills or talents that interest him.
- 27. Check out a library book about sign language. With your child, learn how to sign the alphabet.
- 28. Take a walk with your child. Later, have her make a map of the route.
- 29. Avoid comparing your child to others. Recognize his strengths.
- 30. Have each family member write a funny sentence. Put them together to make a story.
- 31. Pay your child a specific compliment. "Your handwriting is so neat!"



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