

Daily Learning Planner

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

Elementary Schools
PENNCREST School District



THE
PARENT
INSTITUTE®

June • July • August 2022

June 2022

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

- 1. Have family members set some summer goals. List books you want to read and things you want to do.
- 2. Look at a photo in a news article with your child. Talk about it. Then read the article together.
- 3. Practice math skills with real-life problems. If a toy costs \$9.99, how much change will your child get back from a \$20 bill?
- 4. Most libraries have summer reading programs for kids—in person and online. Sign your child up today.
- 5. Encourage your child to start a “Something I Learned Today” journal and write it in all summer.
- 6. When your child has a problem, offer two possible solutions. Let your child decide which one to choose.
- 7. Have your child help you put a first-aid kit together (or restock the one you have). Review basic first aid.
- 8. Make a list of 10 things your child learned in school this year. Post it on the refrigerator.
- 9. Have your child find items outside that are *smooth, shiny, flexible* or *round*.
- 10. Ask, “If you were an animal, which animal would you be and why?”
- 11. Which way is the wind blowing? Help your child hang a strand of yarn from a tree to find out.
- 12. Teach financial responsibility. Help your child learn about budgeting and saving as well as spending.
- 13. Make a graph together of the types of pets in your neighborhood.
- 14. Fill glasses with different amounts of water. Have your child tap them and listen to the different tones.
- 15. Help your child plan three healthy breakfasts.
- 16. Have your child put an ice cube outside in the sun. What happens after five minutes? After 10?
- 17. Prepare a fruit salad for dessert. When shopping for ingredients, choose one fruit your child has never tasted.
- 18. Make an “I’m Bored” box with your child. Fill it with craft activities and things to read.
- 19. Have your child use a measuring tape to measure objects in your home.
- 20. Talk about a familiar place with your child. Is it *north, south, east* or *west* of your home?
- 21. Have your child make a poster with some summer safety tips.
- 22. Ask your child to give you examples of a complete sentence, an incomplete sentence and a run-on sentence.
- 23. Let your child dissolve salt in a glass of water. Watch for a few days. What happens?
- 24. Eat outside tonight! Have your child choose at least one menu item.
- 25. Take an imaginary space trip with your child. What would your spaceship look like? Which planets would you visit?
- 26. Play a screen-free game with your child today.
- 27. See how many places in your home (not including books) your child can find words to read.
- 28. Look in a newspaper for interesting words. Help your child look up their meanings in the dictionary or online.
- 29. Cover a leaf (vein side up) with paper. Have your child rub with a crayon.
- 30. Review a few math facts with your child each day, all summer long.

July 2022

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

- 1. Ask your child to fill a tall, thin cup with water. Then pour the water into a short, broad cup. Does the amount look different?
- 2. Make unusual prints with your child by dipping flowers into paint and then pressing them onto paper.
- 3. Make up a short question. Ask your child to answer in rhyme.
- 4. Talk about the word *independence* with your child today. What does it mean?
- 5. Read under the stars. Take a blanket and book outside and read with your child by flashlight.
- 6. Have a “pattern” day. Ask your child to notice patterns all around, from street addresses to striped fabrics.
- 7. Make a list of words for your child to find and circle in the newspaper.
- 8. Ask your child *how* and *why* questions to provide reasoning practice.
- 9. Tonight, allow a few minutes after the light is off for quiet conversation with your child.
- 10. Have your child write a letter or draw a picture for a living author of a book. Send it to the author in care of the book’s publisher.
- 11. Walk as fast as you can around your block with your child. Time yourselves. Try to improve your time next week.
- 12. Pick a new word out of the dictionary. Everyone try to use that word at least three times today!
- 13. Start a sentence-a-day story. In a special notebook, take turns with your child writing a story one sentence at a time.
- 14. Ask if your child has ever had a dream that was really scary. What was it about?
- 15. Ask your child to tell you about a favorite family tradition.
- 16. On a sunny day, stand on the driveway or sidewalk with your child. Trace each other’s shadows with chalk.
- 17. Teach your child how to disagree respectfully.
- 18. Learn how to say “I love you” in at least three other languages. Share this with your child.
- 19. Have your child tie a string between two chairs. Use a balloon and play indoor volleyball together.
- 20. Ask about the nicest thing a friend has ever done for your child.
- 21. As a family, do something nice together for your neighborhood, such as picking up litter.
- 22. Encourage your child to draw a self-portrait.
- 23. Help your child find a hobby. Check the library or online for ideas.
- 24. Set aside time today to work on your child’s new hobby together.
- 25. Play alphabet games with your child. List countries, animals or cars in alphabetical order.
- 26. Is your child turning into a summer couch potato? Limit screen time and encourage outdoor play.
- 27. Give your child a magnet. Together, test to see which things in your house contain iron.
- 28. In a paper cup, plant the seeds from a fruit your child has eaten. Water them and see if they grow.
- 29. Sing a familiar song and leave out some words. Does your child know which words you left out?
- 30. Remember, kids need downtime to think, imagine and play.
- 31. Tell a story about when you were your child’s age.

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August 2022

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

- 1. Ask your child to help you plan a family activity.
- 2. Give your child a leafy stalk of celery to put into colored water. Watch the color rise into the stalk over the next week.
- 3. Have your child draw on white paper with a white candle. The picture will appear when your child paints over it.
- 4. Watch or read the weather forecast with your child today. Locate the hottest and the coolest locations on a map.
- 5. Play a card game that uses math with your child.
- 6. Enjoy some outdoor physical activity as a family today.
- 7. Check out the school’s website. Is there information posted for your child’s grade level?
- 8. If your child will take the bus to school, make sure you both know where and when it will stop.
- 9. Have a Backward Day. Walk backward, count backward, etc.
- 10. Make a sound, such as jingling keys. Ask your child to guess what you are doing without looking.
- 11. Help your child use ads for school supplies to figure out where to get the best buys.
- 12. Mute the sound on a TV show. With your child, make up the dialogue.
- 13. Have a Digital Device-Free Day. Enjoy screen-free activities together.
- 14. Create an art gallery. Frame your child’s artwork (a homemade paper frame is fine). Rotate the work on display frequently.
- 15. Do you have errands to do? Have your child help you write a to-do list.
- 16. Make your child laugh! Tell a joke, read a funny story or poem, sing a silly song or draw a cartoon.
- 17. Start a made-up story. “A man went down the road and met a ...” Let your child finish the story.
- 18. Have a special breakfast with your child today. Talk about goals for the new school year.
- 19. Help your child reestablish school-year bedtime and wake-up routines.
- 20. Play a game of hide and seek with your child.
- 21. Plant an herb garden in pots on your window sill. Let your child smell and taste the leaves and describe the flavors.
- 22. Have your child use the telephone number keys to make words. For example, 5-6-8-3 = Love.
- 23. Choose a “person of the week.” Read more about this person with your child.
- 24. Talk with your child about the importance of telling an adult when a person is being bullied.
- 25. Ask your child to tell you about a favorite summer memory.
- 26. Set aside time every day for reading aloud. Sometimes, let your child read to you.
- 27. Write a secret message in lemon juice on paper. Have your child hold it over a light bulb to read it.
- 28. Put on music and spend 15 minutes drawing or writing with your child. Let the music be your inspiration.
- 29. Visit a local historic site with your child today.
- 30. For smoother mornings, have your child choose and lay out clothes the night before.
- 31. Before driving, show your child the route on a map. Ask for help navigating.

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