

Daily Learning Planner

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

Cumberland County Schools



THE
PARENT
INSTITUTE®

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

- 1. Share the responsibility for holiday preparations. As kids help, they appreciate holidays even more.
- 2. Have your child use construction paper strips to make a chain. Remove one link every night to count down to a special day.
- 3. Talk with your child about the importance of telling an adult when someone is being bullied.
- 4. Make today "dictionary day." Talk together about new words that your child thinks should be in the dictionary.
- 5. Post a new vocabulary word and its definition on the bathroom mirror. Change it every three or four days.
- 6. Look online for free events for families in your area. Plan to attend one this month.
- 7. Make a jigsaw puzzle together. Glue a picture from a magazine onto cardboard. Cut it into puzzle pieces.
- 8. Brainstorm with your child about what would be a fun activity to make an annual tradition. Then, start it!
- 9. At the grocery store, ask your child to estimate the weights of different vegetables and fruits. Weigh them and compare.
- 10. Discuss different ways animals survive the winter months. What do bears do? How about birds?
- 11. Hold a family meeting. Decide on some goals as a family.
- 12. Together, list a few words your child uses often. Then, look up *synonyms* (words with similar meanings) for those words.
- 13. Talk with your child about times when it's important to say *no*, even to an adult.
- 14. Wash your hands with your child before each meal. Talk about why frequent handwashing is so important.
- 15. Exercise as a family. Choose an activity everyone will enjoy.
- 16. Ask your child *how* and *why* questions to provide practice in reasoning.
- 17. Make a "clock" by using a fastener to attach two strips of paper to a paper plate. Add the numbers and help your child practice telling time.
- 18. Ask your child to draw a picture about what happened in school today. Then, talk about it.
- 19. Ask your child to tell you a bedtime story tonight.
- 20. When you watch a show with your child, listen for new words. Later, help your child look up their meanings.
- 21. Together, make a list of fun things your child can do independently when boredom strikes.
- 22. Encourage your child to talk to older relatives about their childhoods.
- 23. Share an inspiring quote with your child.
- 24. Give your child a magnet to use to find out which things in your house are magnetic. What do those things have in common?
- 25. Have a family sing-along. Ask everyone to share their favorite songs.
- 26. Encourage gratitude. Have a family thank-you note writing day. Your child can thank people for gifts, teachers for help, a sibling for sharing.
- 27. Help your child think of something nice to do for a neighbor.
- 28. Challenge your child to design a new cover for a much-loved book.
- 29. Remove the headline of a news article. Have your child read the article and write a headline. Compare the two headlines.
- 30. Ask family members, "If you were an animal, which animal would you be and why?"
- 31. Help your child create a time line of the past year.