

Daily Learning Planner

*Ideas families can use to help children
prepare for school*

Riverview Gardens School District



THE
PARENT
INSTITUTE®

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

- 1. Trace your child's hand on paper. Ask her to think of ways to be a "helping hand." Write her ideas on the paper hand.
- 2. Create a snow globe together. Cut circles out of wax paper with a hole puncher. Put the circles in a jar of water and close the lid. Shake!
- 3. Cut sponges into many shapes. Let your child dip them into different colors of paint. Press on paper for fun designs.
- 4. Play Follow the Leader with your child. Take turns being the leader.
- 5. Check out an alphabet book from the library. Read it with your child.
- 6. Visit a nearby park or running trail. With your child, run like the March wind!
- 7. How many animals can your child think of that have big ears?
- 8. Have your child practice throwing balls of various sizes into a box. For a challenge, increase the distance.
- 9. Draw several items on paper. Ask your child to count them.
- 10. Collect some cardboard tubes, packing materials, yarn, glitter, etc. Save them for a rainy day art session.
- 11. Learn something new together about a person your child admires.
- 12. Keep a few books in your car so you and your child are never without something to read.
- 13. Have your child try to draw with the hand he doesn't usually use.
- 14. Give your child some pictures of people doing different things. Ask her to make up a story about each person.
- 15. Play school together. Take turns being the teacher.
- 16. Measure and weigh your child today. Teach him about inches and pounds.
- 17. Name animals and have your child imitate their sounds.
- 18. Have a family sing-along. Ask family members to share favorite songs.
- 19. Bake shape cookies together. Roll out the dough and cut out circles, triangles, rectangles and squares.
- 20. Involve your child in a task you have been meaning to do, such as washing toys.
- 21. Go outside with your child and look for signs of spring.
- 22. Write a letter of the alphabet. Think of things that begin with that letter and have your child draw some of them.
- 23. Encourage your child's creative thinking with unusual questions. "What would you bring to a picnic on the ocean floor?"
- 24. Help your child find out what's inside a seed. Soak a dry bean overnight, remove the coat and pull the halves apart.
- 25. Put different items in socks, such as a spoon, a toy car and a lemon. Have your child try to identify each by touch.
- 26. Make cardboard frames for your child's artwork and create an art gallery. Rotate the work on display frequently.
- 27. Help your child start a collection of rocks or large buttons. Count and sort them. Talk about shape and color.
- 28. Divide a sheet of paper into squares. Write a number in each square. Have your child put that many pieces of cereal into each square.
- 29. Play a game as a family tonight.
- 30. Send your child something through the mail. She will be thrilled.
- 31. Place a flat object, such as a coin or paper clip, on a piece of paper and have your child paint over it. Remove the object to see the design it left.