

Daily Learning Planner

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

Cumberland County Schools



THE
PARENT
INSTITUTE®

December 2021

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

- 1. Holidays have you feeling hassled? Share the responsibility. As kids help, they appreciate holidays even more.
- 2. Have your child draw a scene from a book onto a narrow piece of cardboard to make a bookmark.
- 3. Ask your child, "If you could go anywhere, where would you go and why?" Together, do some research to learn more about this location.
- 4. If your family will be seeing older relatives this month, have your child talk to them about their school days.
- 5. Begin telling your child a story, and when you get to an exciting part, stop. Let her make up the rest.
- 6. Teach your child how to cut out paper snowflakes. Use some to decorate your windows.
- 7. Talk with your child about the nicest thing someone has ever done for him. What made it special?
- 8. Ask your child to give you an "evening news report" about her day. What's the lead story?
- 9. Name a state, province or country. Who can call out the capital first?
- 10. Have your child pick a word, then put its letters in alphabetical order.
- 11. Plan a device-free day. Let your child choose alternative activities.
- 12. Have your child compare the prices of two sizes of the same product. Which is the better buy?
- 13. Challenge family members to write, eat or do other activities with the hand they don't favor.
- 14. Discuss nutrition. Have your child name five foods that are healthy, then two foods that taste good but are not healthy.
- 15. Enjoy some physical activity with your child.
- 16. Tonight, have your child draw the moon's shape. Is it a crescent, full circle, half circle?
- 17. Ask your child to estimate how many times he blinks in a minute, then count to see.
- 18. Pay your child a genuine, specific compliment today.
- 19. With your child, think of words that sound like what they mean, such as *buzz*, *smash*, *hiss* and *thump*.
- 20. Have your child write a poem or story from the point of view of a pet.
- 21. Ask about qualities your child values in friends. Talk about why values are important.
- 22. Do body arithmetic. Ask your child how much her fingers, knees, toes and nose add up to.
- 23. Cut apart the frames of a comic strip and ask your child to arrange the pieces in the right order.
- 24. Bake cookies with your child. If you're doubling a recipe, have your child do the math.
- 25. Read a book aloud that you and your child can both enjoy.
- 26. Talk about the free or low-cost activities your family enjoyed most during 2021. If possible, make plans to do them again in 2022.
- 27. Ask for your child's help with a household task, such as making dinner.
- 28. Talk with your child about people he admires and why he does.
- 29. Have your child write step-by-step directions for making a sandwich. Then follow them exactly. Did they work?
- 30. Ask what your child would like to make an annual tradition. Start it!
- 31. Find interesting pictures of people. Ask your child to write captions.