

Daily Learning Planner

*Ideas parents can use to help children
prepare for school.*

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THE
PARENT
INSTITUTE®

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

- 1. Name the people in your family. Ask your child who is the oldest or the tallest.
- 2. Plan a "TV Blackout" night. Instead of TV, play games, read aloud, do a puzzle or sing songs together.
- 3. Ask your child to make a city with blocks and boxes.
- 4. Make up a story with your child as the main character. Let your child retell the story to you.
- 5. Find a kid-friendly recipe. Help your child make it.
- 6. Let your child help you send a letter. Show her where the address goes and how to attach a stamp.
- 7. Make a bird feeder with your child by rolling a pine cone in peanut butter and birdseed. Hang it from a tree.
- 8. Pretend you and your child are taking a trip together. How would you get there? What would you bring?
- 9. Visit your local library today. Sit in a cozy chair and read a few books together. Then pick some to take home.
- 10. Cover a table with paper bags. Let your child draw with finger paint.
- 11. Help your child make an indoor fort with light sofa pillows or furniture draped with a sheet.
- 12. Talk about your neighborhood. Can your child name familiar neighborhood sights? (Examples: park, big tree, store)
- 13. Tell your child three things you love best about him.
- 14. Visit a bakery. Share a treat with your child and think of words to describe it, such as *sweet*.
- 15. Let your child help you fold and sort laundry today.



- 16. Find several boxes of different sizes. Have your child line them up from smallest to largest.
- 17. Let your child retell a story with finger puppets.
- 18. Every time your child has to climb up or down stairs today, count out loud each step she takes.
- 19. Ask your child to pretend he is going to the beach. What will he need to bring with him?
- 20. Make a paper crown and let your child play "King" or "Queen" for a day. What rules would your child set?
- 21. Let your child make shapes with shaving cream in the tub.
- 22. George Washington is famous for telling the truth. Talk to your child about honesty today.
- 23. Visit the library together. Look for a book of children's jokes.
- 24. Talk about the different colors of foods. How many foods can your child think of that are red? Green?
- 25. Set up a special place for your child to look at books.
- 26. Fill glasses with different levels of water and tap lightly on them with a spoon. Notice the different sounds they make.
- 27. Have your child draw her ideal pet.
- 28. Watch a children's movie together as a family. Talk about the different characters.

Helping Children Learn®

Tips Families Can Use to Help Children Do Better in School

