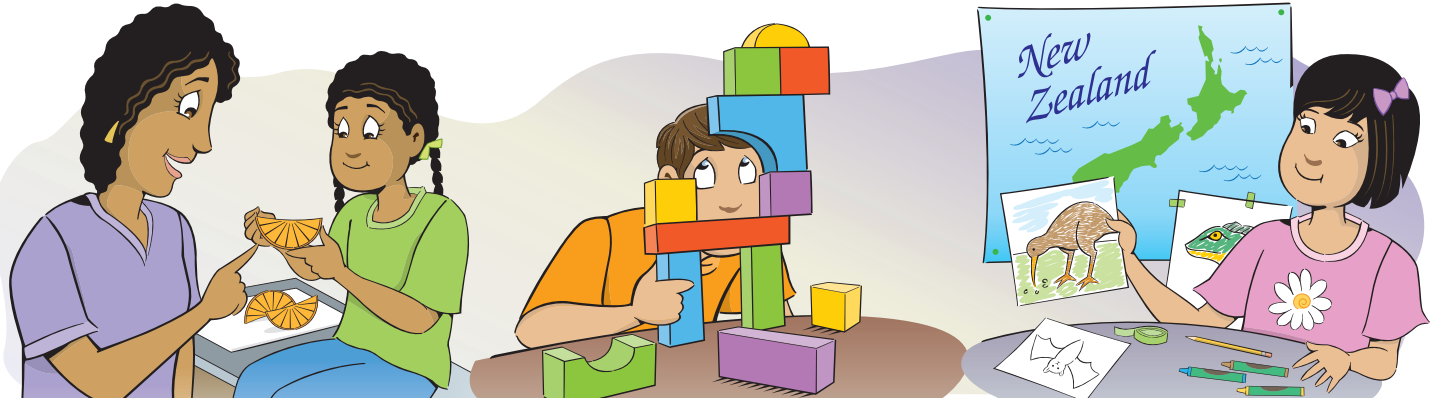


Daily Learning Planner

Ideas parents can use to help children
prepare for school.

Parent Information & Resource Center
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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. Cut out the shape of a bird. Then let your child decorate it.
- 2. Play hide and seek with your child. Take turns hiding.
- 3. Let your child draw blindfolded. Be sure to supervise!
- 4. Hold up a piece of colored construction paper. Ask your child to find a crayon that is the same color.
- 5. Ask your child to name his favorite thing about you.
- 6. Think of someone who would appreciate a visit, such as an elderly neighbor. Visit that person with your child.
- 7. Let your child practice buttoning a shirt or zipping a zipper.
- 8. Crush colored cereal with a rolling pin. Spread glue on paper and let your child pour the colored "sand" on it.
- 9. Read a book to your child before each meal and before bed.
- 10. Find a rock and let your child paint it.
- 11. Have a spring clean-up day. Choose a room and have your child help you clean it.
- 12. Take a trip to a nearby construction site. Stay at a safe distance. Plan to visit later and monitor the progress.
- 13. Explain the concepts of *today*, *tomorrow* and *yesterday*.
- 14. Go on a grocery store scavenger hunt. Ask your child to find a fruit, something yellow and something big.
- 15. Ask questions about familiar places. Where do we buy food? Where do we get medicine?
- 16. Read your child a story that rhymes.
- 17. Say a word such as "ball." See if your child can name another word that begins with the same sound.
- 18. Bake a cake with your child. Have her help decorate it.
- 19. Cut bunny ears out of cardboard cereal boxes. Attach them to a strip of paper long enough to fit around your child's head.
- 20. Pick a color. See if your child and you can go from room to room and touch one item of that color.
- 21. Instead of talking today, try singing sentences back and forth with your child.
- 22. Exchange compliments with your child.
- 23. Blow up a balloon and see how long you and your child can keep it in the air. This teaches eye-hand coordination.
- 24. Sit face-to-face with your child. Have your child pretend to be your mirror. When you move, he should do exactly what you do.
- 25. Ask your child to find squares today.
- 26. Have a treasure hunt outside. Challenge your child to find five specific items (leaf, grass, pine cone, etc.).
- 27. Talk to your child about being safe around strangers.
- 28. Tie three-foot lengths of ribbon to a plastic shower curtain ring. Let your child wave and twirl it while moving around.
- 29. Use cardboard toilet paper tubes and a rubber ball to bowl with your child in a hallway.
- 30. Cut scraps of wrapping paper into interesting shapes and let your child make a collage out of them.



Helping Children Learn
EARLY CHILDHOOD
Tips Families Can Use to Help Children Do Better in School