

Daily Learning Planner

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

Parent Information & Resource Center
416 Black Avenue, Lexington, S.C. 29072



THE
PARENT
INSTITUTE®

April 2016

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

- 1. Teach your child the name of the president.
- 2. Spring means bugs! Look outside. Can your child find any yet?
- 3. Drop paint onto paper with a spoon. Let your child turn the paper different ways to make designs.
- 4. Together, look around your neighborhood for words on signs. Read them to your child.
- 5. When your child takes a bath, have her guess whether certain items will float or sink. Test them.
- 6. Make sure your child understands the rules about going into the street: Never go alone, hold an adult's hand, etc.
- 7. Take a walk with your child. Point out things you don't usually notice, such as a pattern in tree bark or reflections in windows.
- 8. Try this old rainy day classic: With your child, put on rain gear and jump in the biggest puddle he can find.
- 9. Tell your child about a family tradition you enjoyed as a child. Recreate the experience with her.
- 10. Spend some time playing on the floor with your child.
- 11. Play Follow the Leader with your child.
- 12. Help your child make a weather wheel with pictures of a sun, cloud, umbrella, snowflake, etc. Point an arrow to the right picture daily.
- 13. Teach your child about taste opposites. For *sweet* versus *sour*, use sugar and a lemon. For *salty* versus *bland*, use pretzels and a potato.
- 14. With your child, look at a tree in your neighborhood. Talk about how it has changed in the last few weeks.
- 15. Name animals and have your child imitate their sounds.



- 16. Children love to collect things they find in nature. Help your child find a good place to keep his collection.
- 17. Play "school" with your child. Take turns being the teacher.
- 18. Have your child draw a picture of a favorite book. Send it to the author in care of the book's publisher.
- 19. Praise your child's effort to do something.
- 20. Practice saying the names of the months with your child.
- 21. Have your child try to draw with the hand she doesn't usually use.
- 22. Plan to take your child to a baseball game. Little League is a fun option.
- 23. Design a week of ethnic meals. Each night, try a different kind of food.
- 24. Draw a hopscotch pattern on the sidewalk with chalk. Show your child how to hop through the pattern.
- 25. Help your child do something nice for someone else today.
- 26. Go outside with your child and blow bubbles today. Try to catch one without breaking it.
- 27. After you read a story, ask your child what he thinks would happen next.
- 28. Encourage your child to act out going to work in the morning. Then act out other activities.
- 29. Read a story to your child and ask her to illustrate it.
- 30. Visit a yard sale. Give your child a small amount of money to spend, but don't give him more after he's spent it.

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