

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. Draw a hopscotch pattern on the sidewalk with chalk. Show your child how to hop through the pattern.
- 2. Make a list with your child of five fun things to do in a rainstorm.
- 3. Plan a No-TV Night. Read as a family instead.
- 4. Take a walk with your child. Make up silly steps to do together. Take two large steps, then three tiny steps.
- 5. Go "fishing" with your child. Cut fish out of construction paper. Attach paper clips to them. Make a fishing rod from a stick, string and magnet.
- 6. Partially fill a small balloon with water and tie it. See if your child can gently toss it back and forth to you outside.
- 7. Tell your child a story about when you were little.
- 8. Ask your child how the sun helps us. (Feeds plants, keeps us warm.) Can it hurt us? (Causes sunburn.)
- 9. Give your child a variety of items to arrange according to size.
- 10. Let your child try to fit a key into a lock. Talk about things that require keys, such as doors, cars and some boxes.
- 11. Make a pillow pile for your child to jump in.
- 12. Before bed tonight, look at the moon and stars with your child. Then read a story or poem about them together.
- 13. Bake a cake with your child. Allow him to decorate it.
- 14. Say "I spy with my eye something that is [name a color]." Let your child guess what it is. Take turns guessing what the other sees.
- 15. Learn something new about a person your child admires.
- 16. How many words can your child name that rhyme with "bat"?
- 17. Count stairs as you and your child climb them today.
- 18. Encourage your child to act out cooking dinner. What will she serve?
- 19. Today, read a book to your child before each meal and before bed.
- 20. Give your child an opportunity to play in sand. Many neighborhood parks have sandboxes. Bring a shovel!
- 21. At the market, let your child choose a new fruit or vegetable to try.
- 22. Encourage your child to draw while blindfolded.
- 23. Draw a dot-to-dot outline of a picture. Number the dots and have your child connect them.
- 24. Put objects starting with the letter P into a bag—penny, paper clip, pen. Let your child reach in and guess what each is without looking.
- 25. Tie long pieces of ribbon to a shower curtain ring. Let your child wave and twirl the ring.
- 26. Teach your child how to say "thank you" in several different languages.
- 27. Take a walk outside and look for bugs. How many different ones can you and your child find?
- 28. Make this Yellow Day. Wear yellow clothes. Look for yellow things. Drink lemonade.
- 29. Tell your child about using *inside* and *outside* voices. Inside voices are quiet. Outside voices are louder.
- 30. Give your child a box to collect outdoor "treasures" that he finds.
- 31. Cut part of a photo out of a magazine. Paste it onto paper. Ask your child to use crayons to complete the picture.



Helping Children Learn®

Tips Families Can Use to Help Children Do Better in School

