

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. Cut yellow triangles and a brown circle out of construction paper. Ask your child to glue the triangles around the circle to make a sunflower.
- 2. Does your child need a physical for school? Make an appointment.
- 3. When your child takes a bath, give her a plastic pitcher and cup. Together, count the number of cups of water it takes to fill the pitcher.
- 4. Let your child help you make a chore chart. Family members can check off jobs as they finish them.
- 5. Set up a ball toss. Let your child practice tossing balls into buckets of various sizes from various distances.
- 6. Ask your child to name places where water is found (lakes, rivers, etc.).
- 7. Help your child practice sorting with a deck of cards. He can sort by color, shape or number.
- 8. Look at a tree outside. Talk with your child about the way it looks with leaves now and how it will look in winter.
- 9. Teach your child a tongue twister.
- 10. Give your child a couple of markers and a paper towel. The towel's absorbency will make the colors blur as he marks on it.
- 11. Compliment your child on something she did well today.
- 12. Visit a bakery with your child. Share a treat and think of words to describe it, such as "flaky."
- 13. Let your child help you make a kid-friendly recipe today.
- 14. Help your child cut out pictures of fruit from magazines. Let him glue them on paper to create a funny fruit face.
- 15. Help your child pick out some school supplies—even if she isn't entering elementary school this year.
- 16. Teach your child a new skill today, like matching socks, putting clothes away or setting the table.
- 17. Keep sliced raw vegetables on hand for healthy snacks.
- 18. Give your child a handful of dried beans. Ask him to give you "just one," then "just two," and so on.
- 19. Teach your child how to dial 911 in an emergency.
- 20. Ask a friend to take a photo of your family. Give your child a copy.
- 21. Let your child "paint" outside with a paintbrush and water.
- 22. Have your child string uncooked pasta tubes on a piece of yarn.
- 23. Eat outside tonight! Let your child choose at least one menu item.
- 24. Pretend you and your child are taking a trip. How would you get there? What would you bring?
- 25. Read a story to your child. Later, ask her to retell it to you from memory.
- 26. Ask your child to follow three-step directions: "Go to the couch. Pick up the book. Bring it here."
- 27. Ask your child to draw a picture of what he liked best today.
- 28. Give your child some positive feedback: "That's a great idea!"
- 29. Help your child turn a large cardboard box into a pretend car.
- 30. Are you taking a car trip? Don't forget to take audiobooks.
- 31. Make up a song featuring your child's name.



Helping Children Learn
TIPS Families Can Use to Help Children Do Better in School

EARLY CHILDHOOD