Decide 2022

Daily Learning Planner: Ideas Families Can Use to Help Children Do Well in School—Try a New Idea Every Day!

1. Make a 31-link paper chain with your child. Tear off a link each day to count down the days until January 1.
2. Set aside time today to work on a project with your child. Choose something your student could give as a gift.
3. Make a meal together. Explain why you do some steps before others.
4. Have your child blow bubbles in freezing weather. How does the cold affect them? Look for ice forming on the bubbles.
5. Pick a word from the dictionary and draw a picture of it. See if your child can guess the word. Then let your child pick a word.
7. Have your child use a news source (in print or online) to check weather around the world. Where is it coldest?
8. Look for a community service project your family can do together.
9. Have your child teach you about something the class is learning. It’s a great way to reinforce learning.
10. Talk to your child about holiday traditions in other cultures. Find a book about holidays to read together.
11. Give your child a flashlight to use to read in bed tonight.
12. Pick a word and challenge your child to put its letters in alphabetical order.
13. Find pictures of people in various situations. Ask your child to write captions.
14. Have your child compare the prices of two sizes of the same product at the grocery store. Which is the better buy?
15. Take a walk with your child and look at trees. Which trees are evergreen? Which ones are deciduous (lose their leaves in winter)?
16. Talk to your child about the importance of thanking people for gifts and kindnesses.
17. Set aside some time this month to do something seasonal together that you enjoyed when you were a child.
18. Watch the news on TV with your child. Choose one story and compare it with a print news article about the same event.
19. Review spelling or vocabulary words with your child tonight.
20. Have your child predict the results of flipping a coin 10 times. Then try it. Was your child’s prediction close?
21. Talk with your child about the link between rights and responsibilities.
22. Have your child listen to different types of music and describe the feelings each one inspires.
23. Have your child make a list of things to do when there’s nothing to do.
24. Read a story to your child and use a different voice for each character.
25. Hum a popular song and see if your child can guess its name.
26. With your child, estimate how many bowls of cereal you can pour from one box. Keep track until the box is empty.
27. Look for a show or video about history and historical figures. Watch with your child.
28. Challenge your child to do a secret good deed for a friend or neighbor.
30. Have your child write directions for making a sandwich, then follow them exactly. How does it turn out?
31. Help your child create a time line of 2022.
January 2023

1. Make a list with your child of activities you enjoyed together during the past year. Schedule time on the calendar to do some of them this year.
2. Talk with your child about a choice you made and its consequences.
3. Pick a letter. How many country names can your child think of that begin with that letter?
4. Have your child pretend to be Mayor. Then ask your student to list three ideas for making your community a better place.
5. Challenge your child to put away 1 + 5 - 4 + 1 things around the house.
6. Play the Opposites Game. Say a word and see if your child can tell you its opposite.
7. Have a big job to finish! Look for five free minutes and get started. Small chunks of time add up, and you’ll set a great example for your child.
8. Look for ways to involve your child in your hobbies. For example, if you are a runner, take your child for a short jog.
9. Have your child think of several words that start with the same letter, then use them all in one sentence that makes sense.
10. Look over your child’s schoolwork. Talk about what your child did right before offering suggestions.
11. Help your child look up events that occurred on this day in history.
12. Have a contest: Who can name the most parts of the body? (Organs count, too.)
13. Decide as a family on something you want to accomplish together.
14. Help your child create a family joke book. Write one or two jokes per page. Staple the pages together.
15. Teach your child about resolving conflicts. Explain how people reach compromises. Give an example.

February 2023

1. Start a “chain of hearts.” Cut out small hearts. Each day, write a reason you love your child on one and attach it to the chain.
2. It’s Groundhog Day. How many words can your child make from the letters in GROUNDHOG?
3. Stuck inside due to bad weather? Take your shoes off and go “ice skating” in the kitchen together in your socks. Be careful!
4. Make up trivia questions about your family. Quiz one another at the dinner table.
5. How many types of punctuation can your child find in an article or short book? What does each do in a sentence?
6. If you don’t have time to read to your child at night, read in the morning. It’s a real “power breakfast.”
7. At bedtime, take a few minutes to talk with your child about things that went well today.
8. Share family stories you can remember from when you were a child.
9. Talk with your child about the difference between courage and recklessness. It’s not brave to take foolish risks.
10. Frame a special example of your child’s artwork.
11. Plan a visit to an interesting museum with your child.
12. Read a nonfiction assignment with your child. Then ask your student to summarize it.
13. Pretend a circus is coming to town. Talk together about what you would see, hear and taste.
14. Discuss five positive things that make your child unique.
15. Do a crossword puzzle with your child. Or make up your own together.