Daily Learning Planner

Ideas families can use to help children do well in school

March 2023

1. Try a new kind of transportation with your child, such as a bus, subway or train.
2. Together, write a poem about your family. Start each line with a letter from the word FAMILY.
3. Have your child watch for seasonal changes in plant and animal life in your neighborhood and keep notes in a journal.
4. Write fractions on cards. Mix them up. Have your child put them in order from smallest to greatest.
6. Place a long piece of string in a clear bag. Ask your child to estimate if it is longer or shorter than your height. Then take it out to check.
7. Give your child some objects to organize, by color, shape or size.
8. Ask your child questions that require more than a yes or no answer: “What was your favorite part of the story?”
9. Ask your child to draw a future self-portrait. What will your child look like in 10 years?
10. Have each family member write a funny sentence. Put them together to create a story.
11. It’s Women’s History Month. This year’s theme is “Women Who Tell Our Stories.” Help your child learn about a famous woman writer.
12. Go for a walk or bike ride today. Challenge each other to spot something you haven’t seen before.
13. Play a card game, such as Go Fish, with your child.
14. Does your child have a special reading and study spot? Keep paper, pencils and other school supplies handy nearby.
15. Show your child how to figure out which way the wind is blowing by using a wet finger or looking at the trees.
16. Demonstrate how to take your child’s pulse. Then have your child jump up and down 50 times and take it again.
17. Let your child use a toothpick dipped in lemon juice to write an invisible message. To read it, hold the paper up to a light bulb.
18. Help your child fold paper to make different types of airplanes. See which ones fly the best.
19. Plan a device-free night. Read or listen to music together instead.
20. Have your child write a short story from the point of view of a tree.
21. Ask your child, “What would you do with five dollars?”
22. Does your child know when your town was founded? If not, look it up together.
23. Play a game of Simon Says with your child.
24. Have a 20-minute DEAR time today (Drop Everything And Read).
25. Practice stress-busters together, such as breathing deeply.
27. Ask your child to use a “radio announcer voice” when reading to you.
28. Take turns describing the most beautiful places you and your child have ever seen.
29. Ask your child, “What are you thinking right now?”
30. Have your child fill in the blank: “If I had one wish, it would be ___.”
31. Review some civics facts today. Can your child name the branches of the government?
## April 2023

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

1. Ask your child to write a poem or story about a favorite activity.
2. Use a permanent marker to mark off inches on the side of a straight-sided jar. Set the jar outside. See how many inches of rain fall this week.
3. Talk together about books you loved when you were your child’s age.
4. Have your child rank assignments from easiest to hardest. Suggest tackling the hardest one first.
5. Have a family rhyming dinner. Invent rhyming names for the foods you serve.
6. Ask your child to draw a picture of something that happened in school today. Then talk about it.
7. Go on a map search through a printed or online newspaper. How many maps can your child find?
8. Have everyone in the family spend a half hour picking up the house. Many hands make light work.
9. Change chairs at mealtime. Each person pretend to be the person who usually sits in that chair.
10. It’s National Poetry Month. Read three poems with your child today.
11. Time various tasks you and your child do in a day.
12. With your child, learn how to say please, thank you and excuse me in at least three different languages.
13. Look through news articles together. What headlines interest your child? Read an article aloud and discuss it.
14. Have a Geography Challenge. Name a state, province or country. Who can call out the capital first?
15. Brainstorm ways your family could help beautify your neighborhood.

16. Encourage your child to set a weekly goal. Write it down. Could you do this, too?
17. Have your child draw an upside-down picture today.
18. Sing your child’s favorite song together.
19. Avoid a power struggle by challenging your child to come up with a solution that works for you both.
20. Set aside time every day for reading aloud. Sometimes, ask your child to read to you.
21. Ask your child, “What is something you have done in your life that makes you proud?”
22. Have your child make a list of items your family can reuse, repurpose or recycle.
23. Model positive work habits for your child, such as promptness, respect and responsibility.
24. Look over your child’s schoolwork. Give specific compliments first, and then constructive criticism.
25. Ask your child to give you a tour of the school website.
26. Encourage your child to look up unfamiliar words in assignments in a dictionary.
27. Ask your child to listen for a certain word as you read and say it aloud on hearing it.
28. Take a walk with your child tonight. See how many stars you can see.
29. Visit the library with the whole family and be sure everyone checks out some books.
30. Plan to get some outdoor exercise with your child every day this week.

## May 2023

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

1. Teach your child how to prepare nutritious after-school snacks.
2. Have each family member make a list of personal strengths. Read them aloud. Add to one another’s lists.
3. Role-play a sticky situation together. What would your child do if friends were teasing someone at school?
4. Remind your child that it is not necessary to like a teacher in order to learn something in a class.
5. Learn together. Watch a “how-to” video with your child today.
7. Ask your child to give you an “evening news” report about what happened at school today. What’s the scoop?
8. Play Alphabet Mix-up. Choose a word and put the letters in alphabetical order. Can your child figure out the word?
9. Have your child thread a button onto some string, then make the button spin.
10. Low grades indicate a problem to be solved. Ask what your child thinks the problem is. What could your student do to fix it?
11. Challenge your child to do a secret good deed for someone at school.
12. Create a display of your child’s best schoolwork. Rotate the work on display frequently.
13. Have your child write and send a letter or email to a relative.
14. Tonight, let your child stay up later to read.
15. Ask the school about dates for year-end tests. Make sure your child gets enough sleep the nights before.

16. Teach your child how to disagree respectfully.
17. Make up a song featuring your child’s name.
18. Ask your child, “What is the nicest thing a friend has ever done for you?”
19. Talk with your child about your family’s origins.
20. Go on a picnic with your child today. After eating, stretch out on a blanket and read together.
21. Do a crossword puzzle with your child today.
22. Cover the illustration on a page of a book. Read the page aloud. Can your child guess what’s in the picture?
23. Make a list with your child of words that came from other languages. Here’s a start: vamoose, taco, pasta.
24. Have a pattern day. Ask your child to notice patterns all around, such as a striped shirt or streets arranged alphabetically.
25. Ask your child to choose a country and learn more about it.
26. How many types of punctuation can your child find today?
27. Celebrate National Bike Month by having your child review the “rules of the road.”
28. If you give your child an allowance, set guidelines for how much should be used for buying things, saving and giving to charity.
29. It’s Memorial Day. Talk with your child about why this holiday is celebrated in the United States.
30. Get out five pipe cleaners. Challenge your child to twist and bend them to create an animal.
31. Together, read a book about your town or state.