

Daily Learning Planner

Ideas parents can use to help children
prepare for school

Nordonia Hills City School District
Title I Program



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. Praise your child's efforts when she attempts something new.
- 2. Make a list of the best times you had with your child in 2020. Schedule time on the calendar to do some of those activities again this year.
- 3. Cut out letters from paper, felt and sandpaper. Have your child trace them with his finger.
- 4. Ask your child to give you words that rhyme with words you say: *clap (tap), walk (talk), cat (pat)*.
- 5. Have your child make a winter scene by gluing pieces of cotton onto a piece of construction paper.
- 6. Tonight, look at the moon. Is it a crescent, full circle or half circle? Draw the shapes and let your child choose.
- 7. Visit a pet store and look at the fish. Talk with your child about the different sizes and colors of the fish.
- 8. Wrap masking tape sticky-side out around your child's fingers. Have her use her sticky hand to pick up small light objects.
- 9. Make a bouquet of flowers out of opened-up cupcake liners. Let your child decorate the liners. Tape a straw to each to make a stem.
- 10. Celebrate your child's accomplishments with a Can-Do list. "Conner can: run, count to 10, zip his coat." Post the list!
- 11. Wrap a common household item in paper. Ask your child to guess what it is. Let her unwrap it to see if she's correct.
- 12. Talk about *honesty* and why it is so important. Point to examples of people who demonstrate honesty.
- 13. Read your child his favorite book as many times as he wants.
- 14. Show your child a new shape today. If she knows the basics, introduce a *hexagon* (six sides) or *octagon* (eight sides).
- 15. Let your child choose between two outfits to wear today.
- 16. As you do errands, help your child talk with people about their jobs.
- 17. Decorate a box together and pretend it is a machine. What will it do?
- 18. Exercise with your child. Try touching your toes, doing sit-ups, running in place and stretching your arms and legs.
- 19. Play musical chairs as a family to teach listening and thinking skills.
- 20. Ask your child questions that require more than a *yes* or *no* answer: "What made you feel happy today?"
- 21. Go through old magazines with your child and cut out pictures of healthy foods. Make a collage with the pictures.
- 22. Talk about things we do with our bodies: walk, eat, wave, smell, throw. Which body parts do we use for each?
- 23. Go to the library and check out some picture books about winter.
- 24. Stand in front of the mirror together. Discuss the ways you look alike and the ways you look different.
- 25. Play "Follow the Leader" with your child. Take turns being the leader.
- 26. Discuss *transportation*. With your child, list ways people get from place to place: walking, riding in a car, etc.
- 27. Help your child practice sharing.
- 28. Encourage your child to look at a familiar thing in a new way. A shoebox can be a doll's bed, a paper grocery bag can be a mask.
- 29. Let your child see you reading for pleasure.
- 30. Give your child three pictures that show different steps in a process. Ask, "Which happened first, second, last?"
- 31. Take a family photo. Give a copy to your child.