

Daily Learning Planner

*Ideas parents can use to help children
do well in school*

Clay County Schools



THE
PARENT
INSTITUTE®

September • October • November 2017

September 2017

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

- 1. Make an appointment to meet your child's teacher this month.
- 2. A planning calendar is a key to organization. Buy or make one with your child. Use stickers to mark important dates.
- 3. Read a story from the newspaper with your child today.
- 4. Play a game of Guess That Number. Ask your child, "How many cookies in the package? How many chips in the bag?"
- 5. Set a regular time for homework this school year. Find the time that works best for your child.
- 6. Make sure you and your child know the school rules. Ask for a list of rules and post them on your refrigerator.
- 7. Provide a regular place to display your child's best schoolwork. Change the display often.
- 8. Does your child know your state bird? If not, help her look it up.
- 9. At dinner, have each family member share the week's experiences.
- 10. Think about your rules for your child. Are they age-appropriate?
- 11. Make sure your child has access to basic reference books when he studies—dictionary, thesaurus, atlas.
- 12. Cut out pictures of people from a newspaper or magazine. Have your child make up a story about each person.
- 13. Challenge your child to think of words that have both a *prefix* and a *suffix*, such as *unbelievable*.
- 14. Turn off the TV this evening! Read or play games instead.
- 15. Help your child write a list of her favorite animals. Talk about what makes each animal special.
- 16. With your child, cover shoe boxes with colored paper to create a mailbox for each family member.
- 17. Today is Constitution Day and Citizenship Day. Discuss what being a good citizen means in your family, in school and in the community.
- 18. Talk with your child about a choice you made and its consequences.
- 19. Give your child a whistle to blow if he is in danger. Warn him to blow it only when there is danger.
- 20. Keep a special basket as a home base for library books.
- 21. Watch a sports event on TV with your child. Talk together about what you see and hear.
- 22. Review homework each day. Is it complete? Give compliments.
- 23. Help your child plan ahead. Tonight, talk about the coming week.
- 24. Have your child set a weekly goal. Write it down.
- 25. A nutritious breakfast helps kids learn. Make sure your child starts the day with a healthy breakfast at home or at school.
- 26. Each week, give your child a small number of tickets, each worth 30 minutes of TV time. Unused tickets may be cashed in for treats.
- 27. Does your child know how many days each month has? Teach her.
- 28. Tell your child you love him.
- 29. With your child, make and enjoy a healthy snack.
- 30. At dinner, ask family members to say how they used math today.

Helping Children Learn
TIPS FAMILIES CAN USE TO HELP CHILDREN DO BETTER IN SCHOOL



October 2017

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- 1. Talk about careers with your child. What does she think she would like to do when she grows up?
- 2. List five of your child's successes this week. List five of your own. Post the lists where you can both see them.
- 3. Have your child teach you something he needs to learn for homework. It's an effective way to reinforce learning.
- 4. At dinner, talk about how family members are achieving their weekly goals. Celebrate everyone's efforts.
- 5. Sometime today, exchange notes with your child instead of talking.
- 6. With your child, record the shape of the moon every night this month.
- 7. Read a book about your town or state with your child this weekend.
- 8. It's Fire Prevention Week. Plan a safe escape route at your house.
- 9. Today's news is history in the making. Watch the news with your child.
- 10. Have a contest: How many words can you and your child make from the letters in OCTOBER?
- 11. Ask your child about the best present she ever got. What made it special?
- 12. Take a walk and look for signs of fall. See if your child can identify any of the trees you pass.
- 13. Start a project with your child. Make plans to work on it regularly.
- 14. Make a leaf rubbing. Place a leaf on newspaper. Cover it with thin paper and have your child rub over the leaf with a crayon.
- 15. Make today dictionary day. Talk with your child about new words that should be in the dictionary.
- 16. Set aside time every day for reading aloud. Sometimes, let your child read to you.

- 17. Exercise with your child. Pick an activity you both enjoy, such as biking or tossing a ball.
- 18. Have your child make a chart of the types of birds he sees.
- 19. Look through the newspaper with your child. What headlines interest her? Read an article together and discuss it.
- 20. With your child, fill in blanks on the calendar with weather reports, birthdays, special activities or notes to each other.
- 21. Visit the library and check out a mystery book to read together.
- 22. Keep a stash of reading materials in your car. Read with your child while standing in line at a store or waiting at the doctor's.
- 23. Make a big pot of soup. Let your child help with measuring.
- 24. Plan an imaginary vacation with your child.
- 25. Review math facts at the dinner table tonight.
- 26. Have your child read to you as you clean up after a meal. Or read to your child as she cleans up!
- 27. Give your child a hug today.
- 28. Together, learn to say *hello* in two other languages.
- 29. Help your child time different activities he does in a day.
- 30. Encourage your child to draw a self-portrait.
- 31. Choose an object, such as a paper clip. Ask your child to figure out different ways to use it.



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November 2017

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- 1. Have your child write a letter to a lawmaker about an issue that is important to her.
- 2. Collect interesting containers, packing materials, yarn, glitter, etc. Save the supplies for rainy day art sessions.
- 3. At dinner, price each dish. Can your child add up the cost of the meal?
- 4. Write your child's name vertically. Have him use each letter in his name to begin a line of a poem.
- 5. Pretend to go back in time with your child. Pick a period of time and reenact the event together.
- 6. Cover an illustration in a book. Read the page to your child. Can she guess what's in the picture?
- 7. Ask your child to think of one animal that starts with each letter of the alphabet (skip the letter X).
- 8. Create an art gallery. Frame your child's artwork. Rotate the work on display frequently.
- 9. At the store, ask your child to figure out how much change you should get from a purchase.
- 10. Let your child plan dinner tonight, including a new vegetable to try.
- 11. Play Alphabet Mixup. Choose a word and rearrange the letters in alphabetical order. Can your child figure out the word?
- 12. It's Geography Awareness Week. Quiz each other on state, provincial and world capitals at dinner tonight.
- 13. Help your child organize his books by subject, title or author.
- 14. Watch a television show with the sound muted. Ask family members to make up the dialogue.
- 15. Take a walk with your child. Look for things you haven't seen before.

- 16. Ask your child to tell you about a reading assignment in her own words.
- 17. Put on music and spend 15 minutes drawing or writing with your child. Let the music be your inspiration.
- 18. Put together a "kitchen band." How many kitchen objects can your child use to make music?
- 19. Do a crossword puzzle with your child.
- 20. Help your child cut an apple in half. Dip the cut edge in a shallow pan of paint. Press it on paper to make fruit prints.
- 21. Hold a family meeting. Make some goals as a family.
- 22. Play a game of charades with your child. Use hand gestures and motions to describe your word.
- 23. Make a list of all the things that make your family members thankful.
- 24. Every time you talk with your child on the telephone, end your conversation with the words, "I love you."
- 25. Write an encouraging note and tuck it in your child's pocket.
- 26. Clean out closets with your child. Donate gently-used items to charity—or have a family yard sale.
- 27. Make up a secret code with your child. Use it to write notes this week.
- 28. Bake bread with your child. Biscuits are simple to prepare.
- 29. If your child is learning to read, look for read-along audiobooks.
- 30. It's Mark Twain's birthday. Read one of his stories with your child.



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