

Daily Learning Planner

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

Putnam County Schools



THE
PARENT
INSTITUTE®

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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 spend some one-on-one time with your child this month. Write it on your calendar.
- 2. Set aside time every day for reading aloud. Sometimes, have your child read to you.
- 3. Ask your child, "What one thing makes you feel really excited?"
- 4. Write a note saying something nice about your child. Tuck it where he will find it later.
- 5. Draw a picture with your child today. Hang it on the refrigerator.
- 6. Write upcoming school events on your family calendar. Plan to attend as many as you can.
- 7. Cut out four pictures from a magazine. Ask your child to tell you a story that involves something from each picture.
- 8. On Sunday nights, talk with your child about the week ahead.
- 9. Ask your child, "If you could go anywhere, where would you go?"
- 10. Make a special effort to reinforce manners today. Remind family members to say *please* and *thank you*.
- 11. Watch a funny video with your child. Then have her draw a comic strip showing what it was about.
- 12. Have a 20-minute family DEAR time (Drop Everything And Read).
- 13. Name different types of punctuation with your child. Then have him find examples in a book or newspaper.
- 14. Keep a notebook handy when watching TV. Have your child jot down new words she hears and look them up later.
- 15. Be sure you and your child know school rules. Talk about one today.
- 16. Ask your child, "What are your three favorite songs?"
- 17. Choose a place by the front door for items that go to school. Help your child get into the habit of putting things there each day.
- 18. Talk about *honesty* and why it is so important at home and at school.
- 19. Invent a word with your child. Write a silly definition.
- 20. Tonight at dinner, put a "price" on each item you serve. Have your child figure out the total cost of the meal.
- 21. Go outside. Show your child which way is *north, south, east* and *west*.
- 22. Pick a word from the dictionary and draw a picture of it. See if your child can guess the word. Then switch roles.
- 23. "Adopt" a neighborhood tree. With your child, watch it throughout the year. Talk about how it looks, feels and even smells.
- 24. Together, write a poem about your family. Start each line with a letter from the word FAMILY.
- 25. Make a jigsaw puzzle with your child. Glue a picture from a magazine onto cardboard. Cut it into puzzle pieces.
- 26. Have your child put a leafy stalk of celery into colored water. Watch the color rise into the stalk over the next week.
- 27. Play "guess that number" together: How many grapes in a bunch?
- 28. Today, have your child keep track of everything he eats. Together, think of ways to make his diet more nutritious.
- 29. Tell your child three things that you love about her.
- 30. Review spelling words with your child tonight.

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ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Tips Families Can Use to Help Children Do Better in School