

# Daily Learning Planner

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

Title I Program  
Allen Park Public Schools



THE  
**PARENT**  
INSTITUTE®

March • April • May 2018

## March 2018

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

- 1. Let your child help you plan a meal, then prepare it together.
- 2. Ask your child to design an advertisement for a favorite class.
- 3. Have family members take turns being artists and models. The models pose while the artists draw them.
- 4. Pick a new word out of the dictionary. Challenge family members to use the word at least three times today.
- 5. Use flash cards to quiz everyone on math facts.
- 6. Create a word search by hiding words in a grid and surrounding them with random letters. Challenge your child to find the words.
- 7. Watch the news with your child. Choose a Person of the Week. Read more about that person.
- 8. Help your child find out which things sink and which float. Try a wooden spoon, a metal spoon and a rock.
- 9. Talk with your child about *perseverance*. Look for examples of people who demonstrate this quality.
- 10. At the library, help your child check out a book about a famous woman.
- 11. As a family, visit a nearby park or running trail. Everyone run like the March wind!
- 12. With your child, learn the sign language alphabet. Use it to practice spelling words.
- 13. Give your child a notebook. Have him write down new words he hears.
- 14. Start a family scrapbook. Collect photos, souvenirs, certificates and other mementos. Look through it with your child often.
- 15. Have your child rank homework assignments from easiest to hardest. Which works best for her, starting with the easiest or the hardest?
- 16. Have your child use empty boxes and milk cartons to create a three-dimensional map of your town.
- 17. Help your child break down large assignments into smaller parts.
- 18. Set aside a half hour for writing with your child.
- 19. Tell your child a fun fact about something he loves.
- 20. Help your child do a secret good deed for a friend or neighbor.
- 21. Get organized! Ask your child to think about ways to reduce clutter.
- 22. Discuss a book your child likes.
- 23. Take a walk with your child after dark. Try to identify constellations.
- 24. Make a bookmark. On a piece of cardboard, have your child draw a scene or write a quote from a book.
- 25. Look in the newspaper or online for a list of things to do in your town. Which ones appeal to your child? Plan to do a few together.
- 26. Have a No TV Night. Read or play games instead.
- 27. Clip or print an interesting news story. Cut the paragraphs apart. Ask your child to read them and put them in order.
- 28. When reading, pause to ask, "What do you think will happen next?"
- 29. Play music while your family does chores today.
- 30. It's the birthday of Anna Sewell, author of *Black Beauty*. Gallop to your library and check it out!
- 31. Fly a kite with your child.

**Helping Children Learn**  
TIPS Families Can Use to Help Children Do Better in School



# April 2018

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

- 1. Have your child keep a chart of sunny and rainy days this month.
- 2. Do a crossword puzzle with your child. Or make up your own using spelling words.
- 3. Take a walk together and look for signs of spring. If your child didn't know the season, how could she use her senses to figure it out?
- 4. April is Math Awareness Month. Take time to review math with your child each day.
- 5. Sometime today, exchange notes with your child instead of talking.
- 6. Help your child interview people in careers that interest him. What would a typical day be like?
- 7. Be creative in the kitchen. Come up with new pizza topping combinations with your child.
- 8. Have your child design a new cover for a much-loved book.
- 9. Let your child point to a country in an atlas or on a world map. Together, figure out what time it is there.
- 10. Ask your child to go through her toys. Help her give any she doesn't use to another child, a day care center or a school.
- 11. Practice making decisions as a family.
- 12. At bedtime tonight, tell your child a story about yourself at his age.
- 13. Make an emergency reading kit for the car.
- 14. Have everyone in the family spend a half hour picking up the house. Many hands make light work.
- 15. With your child, make a list of words we commonly use that came from other languages. Here's a start: *piñata, croissant, karate*.
- 16. Ask your child to give you a "news report" about what went on at school today. What's the lead story?

- 17. Help your child to use the internet or reference books to research how rain falls from the sky.
- 18. Ask family members, "If you were an animal, which animal would you be and why?"
- 19. Ask your child to read to you while you make dinner.
- 20. Encourage your child to write a family newsletter. She can interview family members and write up the news.
- 21. Find the oldest building in your town. Visit it with your child and talk about local history.
- 22. Brainstorm how your family could help beautify your neighborhood.
- 23. Let your child choose what to wear and where to study today.
- 24. Try a food from another culture. Cook it at home or visit a restaurant as a family.
- 25. Have a No TV Night. Take turns retelling family stories instead.
- 26. Ask your child about people he admires. Why does he admire them?
- 27. Use the letters in your child's name to start positive descriptions of her. "M is for mighty. E is for enthusiastic. G is for generous."
- 28. Visit the library with your child. Check out a book about the oceans.
- 29. Encourage your child to be a gracious winner and a good loser.
- 30. Give your child a photograph from a magazine. Each of you write about what you think happened before or after the picture was taken.



Copyright © 2018 The Parent Institute®, a division of PaperClip Media, Inc. • May be reproduced only as licensed by Helping Children Learn® newsletter • 1-800-756-5525

# May 2018

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

- 1. Help your child locate the places his ancestors came from on a map.
- 2. Good report card? High grade on a test? Make your achiever "King or Queen for a Day."
- 3. Sit in the grass with your child. How many creatures can you find that make their homes in the ground?
- 4. Think of some "what if" questions to ask your child: What if we walked on our hands? What if cats could talk?
- 5. Create a special holiday just for your family.
- 6. It's National Physical Fitness and Sports Month. Enjoy a new fitness activity you can do together as a family.
- 7. Challenge each family member to bring an interesting fact to dinner.
- 8. Encourage your child to write a thank-you to a favorite teacher.
- 9. When you watch TV with your child, ask questions: Why did that person do that? Would you do that?
- 10. Find a new way to say "I love you"—in sign language or in secret code.
- 11. Have each family member make a list of personal strengths. Read them aloud. Add to one another's lists.
- 12. Celebrate National Bike Month by having your child review the "rules of the road."
- 13. With your child, pretend you are in an opera. Sing everything you say to each other today.
- 14. Ask your child to describe the most beautiful place she has ever seen.
- 15. Talk with your child about mistakes. How can people learn from their mistakes?
- 16. Learn a new card game with your child.

- 17. Make sculptures of each other out of clay.
- 18. Help your child pick some flowers (with permission) or pretty weeds and give a bouquet to someone special.
- 19. How many times can your child jump rope? Hold a contest.
- 20. With your child, learn where your town gets its water.
- 21. At the grocery store, have your child compare two sizes of the same product. Which is the better buy?
- 22. Write an encouraging note and tuck it in your child's pocket.
- 23. Help your child find out what's inside a seed. Soak a dry bean overnight, remove the coats and pull the halves apart.
- 24. Ask your child to predict the results of flipping a coin 10 times. Try it and see if he's right.
- 25. Talk about things that used to be hard for your child that are easy now.
- 26. Have an outdoor adventure day. Visit a zoo, playground or park.
- 27. Talk with your child about the importance of reading all summer long. Mark library days on your calendar.
- 28. Plan a picnic with your child.
- 29. Look for summer programs that your child might enjoy.
- 30. Review your child's list of goals for this school year. Did she accomplish what she wanted? Make some goals for next year.
- 31. Talk about what your family could do to help others this summer.



Copyright © 2018 The Parent Institute®, a division of PaperClip Media, Inc. • May be reproduced only as licensed by Helping Children Learn® newsletter • 1-800-756-5525