

Daily Learning Planner

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

Shamokin Area Elementary School



THE
PARENT
INSTITUTE®

September • October • November 2021

September 2021

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

- 1. Talk with your child about things she is looking forward to about school this year.
- 2. Breakfast helps students learn. Make sure your child starts his day with breakfast, at home or at school.
- 3. Choose a place for things that your child needs for school the next day. Help her get in the habit of putting her things there.
- 4. Have a “goodbye to summer” picnic today. Talk with your child about some fun things your family can do together this fall.
- 5. Make sure you and your child know the school rules. Discuss one today.
- 6. Have each family member set a personal weekly goal and write it down.
- 7. Name types of punctuation with your child. Look for examples of each.
- 8. Write a note saying something nice about your child. Tuck it where he will find it later.
- 9. Use time in the car to review things your child is learning, such as spelling words.
- 10. Reinforce manners today. Talk about the importance of saying *please* and *thank you*.
- 11. Measure how far your child can jump. How many jumps does it take to go around your house? Down the block?
- 12. Paint to music with your child. Play different types of songs for each painting. Discuss how the music affects the art.
- 13. Have a Family Reading Night. Pop some popcorn and have everyone curl up with a good book.
- 14. Help your child find her best time to do assignments. Some kids are more focused right after the school day ends, others are at night.
- 15. Ask your child to name his favorite book. Why does he like it?
- 16. Talk about three ways you used math today. Ask everyone in the family how they used math.
- 17. Show your child 10 objects. Have her close her eyes while you remove one. When she opens her eyes, can she guess what’s missing?
- 18. Write your child’s name vertically. Have him use each letter in his name to begin a line of a poem about himself.
- 19. Tonight, talk with your child about the week ahead. Plan to do this every Sunday night.
- 20. Ask your child to tell you something she learned today. Then tell her something *you* learned today.
- 21. Exercise as a family. Choose an activity everyone will enjoy.
- 22. Watch the news with your child. Locate one place mentioned on a world map.
- 23. Make up a secret code with your child. Send messages to each other.
- 24. Watch a funny TV show together. Then have your child draw a comic strip showing what it was about.
- 25. Tell your child about books you loved when you were his age.
- 26. Talk about *honesty* and why it is so important. Point out examples of people who demonstrate honesty.
- 27. See how many ocean creatures you and your child can think of.
- 28. Post a Word of the Day. Challenge family members to use it in a sentence.
- 29. Help your child look for maps in the newspaper. How many can she find? What kinds of information do they give?
- 30. Look over your child’s completed assignments. Give compliments first, then helpful suggestions.

October 2021

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- 1. Choose an object, such as a paper clip. Ask your child to figure out different ways to use it. This promotes creativity and problem-solving.
- 2. Turn chores into a game. Assign each chore a number and have your child roll a die to see which one he gets.
- 3. With your child, time different activities you and she do in a day.
- 4. When your child is unsuccessful, ask, "How would you do it differently next time?"
- 5. If your child mentions a bully, listen. Tell the school if there is a problem.
- 6. Read your child's reading assignment together. Then ask your child to tell you about it in his own words.
- 7. Let your child see you keep your temper when you are angry. Instead of yelling, calmly talk about how you feel.
- 8. Today is the 150th anniversary of the Great Chicago Fire. Develop a family plan in case of a fire in your home.
- 9. Bake cupcakes with your child. Use colors of icing to demonstrate fractions of the cakes—halves, fourths or thirds.
- 10. Challenge family members to write, eat or do other activities with the hand they don't favor.
- 11. Teach your child ways to handle stress—exercising, getting enough sleep, talking about problems.
- 12. Pick a category. Ask your child to pick a letter. How many items from the category begin with that letter?
- 13. Look through a newspaper with your child. What headlines interest her? Read an article together and discuss it.
- 14. If you haven't had a conference with your child's teacher yet, plan to do so.
- 15. Give your child a calendar. Help him use it to keep track of assignments, tests and school activities.
- 16. Think about the rules you have for your child. Are they age-appropriate?
- 17. Let your child plan dinner. How many food groups can she include?
- 18. With your child, learn to count to 10 in two foreign languages.
- 19. Share family history with your child. Look at photos and tell stories.
- 20. Help your child calculate the average age of your family members. Add up ages and then divide by number of people.
- 21. Ask your child about the best present he ever got. What made it special?
- 22. Create a joke book. You and your child can add jokes you read or hear.
- 23. Start a project with your child, such as building a model or a dollhouse. Make plans to work on it together regularly.
- 24. Help your child go online to research events that occurred on the day she was born.
- 25. Encourage your child to start a collection. Collecting can boost sorting and research skills.
- 26. Tell your child about a choice you made and its consequences.
- 27. Review math facts at the dinner table tonight.
- 28. Ask your child to read to you as you're cleaning up after a meal. Or read to your child as he cleans up!
- 29. Have everyone write down two positive things about each member of the family. Read the lists out loud at dinner.
- 30. Find pictures of people. Ask your child to write funny captions about what they are thinking or doing.
- 31. Talk about careers with your child. What would she like to do?

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November 2021

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- 1. Watch a TV show or video with your child. Ask questions such as "Why do you think that character did that?"
- 2. Ask your child what he would do if he were invisible for a day.
- 3. Let your child quiz you about things she is learning in school.
- 4. Have your child pick a word. Together, put its letters in alphabetical order.
- 5. Make up a story with your child.
- 6. Do a crossword puzzle together. It's a great way to learn new words.
- 7. Hold a family meeting. Make some goals as a family.
- 8. Have your child replace adjectives on a printed ad with their opposites.
- 9. Squash is a Native American vegetable. When you're in the supermarket, choose a new squash to try.
- 10. Ask your child to pretend he's the town mayor for a day. Have him list three ideas to make your community stronger.
- 11. Exchange notes with your child instead of talking. (It's great when things get noisy!)
- 12. When you buy something, ask your child to figure how much tax you will be charged.
- 13. Make an "I am special" scrapbook with your child.
- 14. Plan a family talent show. Have everyone practice their acts this week.
- 15. With your child, make awards (enough for all) for your talent show.
- 16. Think of a meaningful quotation you love. Post it where your child will see it.
- 17. Hum a song and see if your child can guess its name.
- 18. Make a jigsaw puzzle with your child. Glue a picture from a catalog or magazine onto cardboard. Cut it into puzzle pieces.
- 19. Talk with your child about a choice one of you needs to make. Discuss all the options and possible consequences.
- 20. Encourage your child to write a thank-you note to a favorite teacher this month.
- 21. See how many ways your child can write a number. For example, 4 can be written 1+3, 2+2 or 6-2.
- 22. Draw a picture of a word. See if your child can guess the word. Then let your child pick a word to draw.
- 23. Be creative in the kitchen. See who can invent the greatest tasting new pizza topping.
- 24. Ask your child to guess how many times she blinks in a minute. Then check!
- 25. Make a list of all the things that make your family members thankful.
- 26. Have your child write directions for making his favorite sandwich. Then follow them together.
- 27. Help your child write a letter to the editor of the local newspaper about an issue affecting children.
- 28. At bedtime tonight, tell your child a story about yourself when you were her age.
- 29. Keep track of everything your family eats for a day. What changes could you make to eat more healthfully?
- 30. It's the birthday of American author Samuel Clemens (Mark Twain). Read one of his stories with your child.

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