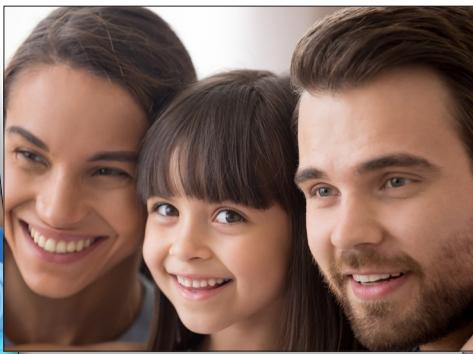


Daily Learning Planner

*Ideas families can use to help children
prepare for school*

Cornbelt Educational Cooperative



THE
PARENT
INSTITUTE®

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

- 1. Start a chain of hearts. Cut out small paper hearts. Each day, write a reason you love your child on one and attach it to the chain.
- 2. Ask your child to line up measuring spoons from *biggest* to *smallest*, then nest them one inside another.
- 3. With your child, build something with blocks, such as a barn or tower.
- 4. Teach your child how to sing in a round. This is when each person sings the same song but starts at a different time.
- 5. As you do errands, help your child talk with people you meet about the jobs they do.
- 6. Spray shaving cream on a cookie sheet and show your child how to draw letters in it with a finger.
- 7. With your child, practice walking sideways today.
- 8. Experiment at dinner together. Does holding your noses affect the taste of the food?
- 9. Mix up all of the shoes in your closet. Challenge your child to match them back into pairs.
- 10. Help your child measure something with a ruler. Count the inches together.
- 11. Paint pictures with your child using only black and white paints.
- 12. Ask your child to *hop* like a bunny, *crawl* like a turtle or *slither* like a snake.
- 13. How many animals can your child think of that have fur?
- 14. At dinner, have each family member say something nice about every person at the table.
- 15. Read a news article with your child today.

- 16. Cut out shapes from paper (triangle, rectangle, square, circle). Challenge your child to arrange them to form a boat.
- 17. Make a "machine" with your child. Use markers to decorate a box with dials and buttons. Pretend to use the machine. What does it do?
- 18. Take turns telling a story. Say, "There once was a family who lived" Have your child finish the sentence.
- 19. Involve your child in preparing tonight's dinner. Your preschooler can help set the table, or mix ingredients.
- 20. Choose a book with lots of pictures. Instead of reading it, have your child tell you a story based on the illustrations.
- 21. Exercise large motor skills. Visit a playground where your child can run, jump and climb safely.
- 22. Invite a friend to play with your child. Encourage your child to share and take turns.
- 23. Review the meanings of *first* and *last*. Have your child touch the first and last objects in a row.
- 24. Practice cutting with safety scissors. Have your child cut along a straight line and then along a curve.
- 25. Cut or print out a detailed picture. Find three things in it that your child is familiar with. Ask your preschooler to find and circle them.
- 26. Help your child stretch uninflated balloons over flashlights to create colored light. What happens when you mix the colors?
- 27. Cut a paper plate into wedges. Ask your child to fit the pieces into a circle again.
- 28. Will your child start kindergarten in the fall? Find out when to register.