

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.