

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. Read with your child for at least 20 minutes today.
- ☐ 2. Have a green day. Have your child color a picture using shades of green. Find foods to eat that are green. Look for the color green all day.
- ☐ 3. Cut part of a photo out of a magazine or catalog. Paste it onto a sheet of paper. Ask your child to use crayons to complete the picture.
- ☐ 4. Look for autumn fairs or festivals nearby. Make plans to attend one as a family this fall.
- ☐ 5. Help your child learn about taste opposites. For *sweet* versus *sour*, use sugar and a lemon. For *salty* versus *bland*, use pretzels and cooked pasta.
- ☐ 6. Talk about where different animals live. Which animals would your child expect to see in the jungle? How about on a farm?
- ☐ 7. Dip the wheels of a toy car in paint. Let your child “drive” it over paper to make a design.
- ☐ 8. Drink a glass of apple cider with your child. Together, learn how cider is made.
- ☐ 9. Help your preschooler create a “store” with toys and play money.
- ☐ 10. Demonstrate how to make phone calls. Help your child call a friend or relative.
- ☐ 11. Have fun with a classic fall activity. Rake leaves and jump into them!
- ☐ 12. Set out different sizes of containers and lids. Ask your child to put the correct lid on each container.
- ☐ 13. Talk with your child about things that make each season special.
- ☐ 14. Remove three items from your purse or pocket. Show them to your child, then put them away. Can your preschooler name them?
- ☐ 15. At the grocery store, ask your child to spot different foods.
- ☐ 16. Cut four shapes from various colors of paper. Make at least two of each shape. Have your child match them.
- ☐ 17. Make plans for a special one-on-one day with your child.
- ☐ 18. Go outside with your child for a “listening minute.” Close your eyes and take turns naming the sounds you hear.
- ☐ 19. Ask your child, “What are three things you like to do that involve a lot of moving your body?”
- ☐ 20. Make today a counting day. Count everything—stairs as you climb them, cars as they pass, raisins as you eat them.
- ☐ 21. Have a bedtime chat with your child after the light is out.
- ☐ 22. Pile leaves on a pillowcase. Have your child lift the case up quickly and then slowly. Watch how the leaves float.
- ☐ 23. Let your child see you enjoying reading.
- ☐ 24. Turn on three different types of music today. With your child, make up movements for each one.
- ☐ 25. Visit the library to check out some books to read together.
- ☐ 26. Ask your child to name things that can be seen in the sky.
- ☐ 27. Help your child make a paper chain out of strips of colored paper.
- ☐ 28. Let your child draw on paper towels with washable markers. Spray the towels with water. Watch the colors blend!
- ☐ 29. Practice sorting with a deck of cards. Have your child sort by color, suit or number.
- ☐ 30. Say a word and see if your child can tell you its opposite.
- ☐ 31. Help your child make an “I’m bored bag.” Fill it with items like a book and stickers and paper.