

# Daily Learning Planner

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

Gadsden City Schools



THE  
**PARENT**  
INSTITUTE®

**June • July • August 2025**

## June 2025

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

- 1. Go online with your elementary schooler and research what happened on the day your child was born.
- 2. Have a summer contest. Who in your family can read the most books?
- 3. Make a list with your child of things you want to do together this summer. Post it and check activities off as you do them.
- 4. Write some fractions on cards. Mix them up. Have your child put them in order from smallest to greatest.
- 5. Take an imaginary sea voyage with your child. What would your ship look like? Which islands would you visit?
- 6. Let your child see you keep your temper when you are upset. Calmly talk about how you feel without raising your voice.
- 7. Give your family members marshmallows and uncooked spaghetti. See who can build the tallest tower.
- 8. Trace your child's shoe on paper. Challenge your elementary schooler to turn the tracing into a funny picture.
- 9. Have your child find an item small enough to fit in a pocket. Ask your student to write a story about it.
- 10. Post a list of 10 things your child learned in school this year.
- 11. Fold paper to make different types of airplanes with your child. See which ones fly best.
- 12. Plan a reading dinner. Have everyone bring a book to the table. Over dessert, take turns talking about the books.
- 13. Set out several objects—soap, a plastic toy, a wooden toy. Have your child guess which will float. Then, fill up the sink and find out.
- 14. Challenge your child to write a poem or story from the point of view of a school bus.
- 15. Have a 20-minute DEAR time (Drop Everything And Read).
- 16. Celebrate the end of the school year with a family picnic. Ask your child to help you plan the menu.
- 17. Ask your child to alphabetize your books, cans of food or spices.
- 18. When watching TV or videos, have your child write down unfamiliar words and look them up later.
- 19. Look for geometric shapes at the grocery store. Can your child find a cone? A cylinder? A cube? A sphere?
- 20. Ask your child to help you squeeze lemons to make lemonade. Discuss the saying, "When life gives you lemons, make lemonade."
- 21. Help your child plan three healthy breakfasts.
- 22. Exercise with your child today. You could go for a jog or play a game of tag. Let your child choose.
- 23. Find a meaningful quotation you love. Post it in a place where your child will see it.
- 24. Set aside time every day for reading aloud. Sometimes, have your child read to you.
- 25. Talk about favorite songs. Ask why your child likes a favorite song.
- 26. Collect a large, lightweight ball and six empty plastic water bottles with lids. Use them to set up an indoor bowling alley.
- 27. Have your child decorate a box to collect keepsakes in this summer. In August, put the treasures (or pictures of them) into a scrapbook.
- 28. Visit a local museum or historical site with your child today.
- 29. Review math facts tonight. Together, make flash cards to practice with so your child's math skills don't slip over the summer.
- 30. Remind your child that mistakes are opportunities to learn.

# July 2025

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- ☐ 1. Sing a familiar song and leave out some words. Can your child tell you which words you left out?
- ☐ 2. At bedtime, talk with your child about things that went well today.
- ☐ 3. Look at the clouds together. Make up stories about the shapes you see.
- ☐ 4. Talk about the word *independence* with your child today. What does it mean?
- ☐ 5. Give your child a magnet. Have your student test which things in your house are magnetic. What do they have in common?
- ☐ 6. Put an ice cube outside in the sun and ask your child to observe it. What happens after five minutes? After 10?
- ☐ 7. Books that win the Caldecott Medal have great illustrations. Help your child find one at the library.
- ☐ 8. Tell your child a story that teaches an important lesson.
- ☐ 9. Look through a news article for interesting words. Help your child look them up in a dictionary.
- ☐ 10. Create silly masks together. Have your child decorate a paper plate. Cut holes for your elementary schooler's eyes and mouth.
- ☐ 11. Read *The Little Engine That Could*. Talk about the importance of continuing to try when things are challenging.
- ☐ 12. Help your child interview people working in career fields that seem interesting. What is a typical day like?
- ☐ 13. Tie a string between two chairs. Use a balloon to play indoor volleyball with your child.
- ☐ 14. Go outside and help your child observe an animal. What does it eat? Where does it live?

- ☐ 15. Read a fairy tale together. Ask your child to create a new ending.
- ☐ 16. Ask a question that requires your child to use math to answer: "How many eight-slice pizzas would it take to feed 32 people?"
- ☐ 17. Make the most of time in the car together by listening to audiobooks.
- ☐ 18. Ask your child, "What have you done recently that you are proud of?"
- ☐ 19. Is your child turning into a couch potato? Limit screen time and encourage outdoor play.
- ☐ 20. Will your child need a physical exam for school this fall? If so, make an appointment now.
- ☐ 21. With your child, walk as fast as you can around your block. Time yourselves. Try to improve your time!
- ☐ 22. Tuck your child in early tonight to allow time for reading in bed.
- ☐ 23. Send your child something through the mail.
- ☐ 24. Talk to your child about something you've learned recently.
- ☐ 25. Can you and your child name a fruit or vegetable that starts with every letter of the alphabet? You can leave out X.
- ☐ 26. Give your child a gift certificate for one special activity with you.
- ☐ 27. Discuss different times of year. Which is your child's favorite? Why?
- ☐ 28. Help your child write a family newsletter by interviewing family members and writing up the news.
- ☐ 29. Teach your child how to disagree respectfully.
- ☐ 30. Help your child check out back-to-school sales ads and look for the best buys.
- ☐ 31. Have your child create a flag for your family.

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# August 2025

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

- ☐ 1. When you drive somewhere, show your child the route on a map.
- ☐ 2. At bedtime tonight, tell a story about yourself when you were your child's age.
- ☐ 3. Use sidewalk chalk to do math problems outside together.
- ☐ 4. Choose a recipe from another country or culture. Prepare it with your child.
- ☐ 5. Give your child a hug today.
- ☐ 6. Say something positive about your child to someone else when your child can hear you.
- ☐ 7. Look at the school's website with your child. Find the phone numbers for the office and the attendance line.
- ☐ 8. Learn a tongue twister. At dinner, challenge everyone to repeat it three times fast.
- ☐ 9. Collect seeds that are different sizes and colors. Let your child arrange the seeds in a design and glue them to a sheet of paper.
- ☐ 10. Reestablish a school-year sleeping routine. Have your child go to bed earlier and get up earlier in the morning.
- ☐ 11. Does your child have a special reading and study spot? Stock it with books, paper, pencils and a ruler.
- ☐ 12. Help your child make a list of learning goals for the new school year.
- ☐ 13. Show your child a picture of Monet's artwork. Can your child imitate the artist's style?
- ☐ 14. Take turns making statements with your child. Identify each one as either *fact* or *opinion*.
- ☐ 15. Do you know your child's friends? Together, start making a list of their names and phone numbers.

- ☐ 16. Read a book aloud and stop at an exciting place in the story. Ask your child, "What do you think will happen next?"
- ☐ 17. Let your child try to solve problems independently before jumping in to help.
- ☐ 18. Challenge your child to do a secret good deed for a neighbor or friend.
- ☐ 19. Take a walk with your child tonight and look for the North Star. Talk about how it helped explorers and travelers.
- ☐ 20. Talk about a familiar place and ask your child if it is *north*, *south*, *east* or *west* of your home.
- ☐ 21. Help your child record an "audio letter" and send it to a relative.
- ☐ 22. Ask your child to draw a map of how to get from your home to school.
- ☐ 23. Invent a new word with your child. Write a definition as it would appear in the dictionary.
- ☐ 24. Discuss the importance of laws with your child. What would happen if there were no laws?
- ☐ 25. Ask your child to help you plan a weekend activity.
- ☐ 26. Start a helpful habit for school. Have your child choose and lay out clothes for the next day the night before.
- ☐ 27. Let your child lead a family meeting.
- ☐ 28. Say to your child, "I have three coins. Together they are worth seven cents. What are they?"
- ☐ 29. Fall activities will be starting soon. Plan your child's schedule carefully to allow a healthy balance of school time, activities and downtime.
- ☐ 30. Keep a map or globe visible in your home. Your child will learn about the world by seeing it regularly.
- ☐ 31. Express your confidence that your child will do well in school.

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