

Daily Learning Planner

*Ideas families can use to help students
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 Students Do Well in School—Try a New Idea Every Day!

- ☐ 1. Will your teen have a summer reading assignment? Have your student post it and check off the books after reading them.
- ☐ 2. With your teen, look at a course catalog from a local community college. What classes interest your student?
- ☐ 3. Ask your teen, "What one thing would you like to do differently in the next school year?"
- ☐ 4. Decide on some educational summer goals for your whole family.
- ☐ 5. Ask your teen to record the summer. Your student can write in a journal, create a photo album or keep a vlog.
- ☐ 6. Suggest that your teen ask school friends about books they have enjoyed reading. This can provide ideas and motivation to read.
- ☐ 7. Ask your teen, "Which teachers have you had the best relationships with this year? Why do you think that is?"
- ☐ 8. Teens still need routines during the summer. Have a discussion about how your teen plans to spend time.
- ☐ 9. Have your teen figure out the time difference between your town and Tokyo, Japan. Is it yesterday, today or tomorrow there?
- ☐ 10. Encourage your teen to do some kind of physical exercise every day this summer.
- ☐ 11. Start the summer off right. Set limits on passive recreational screen activities, such as watching shows and scrolling through videos.
- ☐ 12. Do you know the names of your teen's friends? Have your student share their contact information with you.
- ☐ 13. Ask your teen to invent a new law that should be passed.
- ☐ 14. Talk together about what your teen posts and reads on social media. Do posts, comments and shares accurately reflect your teen's values?
- ☐ 15. Challenge your teen to try a new creative activity, like writing a sonnet.
- ☐ 16. Set a device curfew. Using digital devices in the hour right before bedtime can make it harder for your teen to fall asleep.
- ☐ 17. Wishing for cooler weather? Have your teen look up the location and temperature of the coldest place on Earth today.
- ☐ 18. Say something nice about your teen to someone else when your student can overhear.
- ☐ 19. Can your teen swim? If not, sign up for lessons this summer.
- ☐ 20. Ask which family member your teen feels most like, and why.
- ☐ 21. Look for a volunteer activity you and your teen can do together.
- ☐ 22. Take your teen to the library. Each of you check out some books.
- ☐ 23. Praise your teen's positive decisions. After a poor decision, ask what your teen learned.
- ☐ 24. Promote awareness of the wider world. Encourage your teen to watch or read the news every day.
- ☐ 25. Show that you understand your teen is growing up. Share an article on a more mature topic and discuss it together.
- ☐ 26. Play a board game together that involves strategic thinking.
- ☐ 27. Ask your teen to locate a nearby museum of interest. Plan a visit.
- ☐ 28. Choose a number from 1-12, then have your teen list items that come in groups of that number.
- ☐ 29. Is your teen a new driver? Insist that your teen keep practicing with you, even after getting a license.
- ☐ 30. Do a household project with your teen today.

July 2025

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

- ☐ 1. The Fourth of July is coming. Make plans now to spend time that day with your teen.
- ☐ 2. Suggest that your teen practice writing a college application essay. Essay prompts for the Common Application are available online.
- ☐ 3. Compliment something your teen is doing well this summer.
- ☐ 4. Read the Declaration of Independence with your teen today. Talk about why it was written.
- ☐ 5. Will your teen need a medical exam before school resumes? Make an appointment now.
- ☐ 6. Involve your teen in a gardening project. Ask your student to help you decide what to plant.
- ☐ 7. Help your teen find a “beach” book to read outside on a sunny day.
- ☐ 8. Talk about safety with your teen. Review simple first aid.
- ☐ 9. Watch a movie together that your teen loved as a child. What does your student notice now that wasn’t as obvious before?
- ☐ 10. At dinner tonight, share a wish or a dream with your teen.
- ☐ 11. How is the summer reading going? Check with your student.
- ☐ 12. In the summer, teens often feel peer pressure to try alcohol. Talk to your teen about ways to say *no*.
- ☐ 13. At dinner, ask family members to tell the funniest things that happened to them today.
- ☐ 14. Be tourists in your hometown today. Visit a local historic site with your teen.
- ☐ 15. Is your teen getting bored? See if your library or community center needs volunteers. Check with other local organizations, too.
- ☐ 16. Let your teen help you make a family chore chart. Everyone can check off jobs as they finish them.
- ☐ 17. Ask your teen’s opinion about a family decision.
- ☐ 18. Is your teen turning into a summer couch potato? Limit screen use and encourage outdoor activity.
- ☐ 19. Ask your teen, “Do you feel you can talk to me about topics that are important to you?” If the answer is *no*, ask, “How can I change that?”
- ☐ 20. Find a book your teen might enjoy. Suggest that your student read through it to find quotes that would be great on a T-shirt.
- ☐ 21. Have your teen put on sunscreen before spending time outdoors.
- ☐ 22. Correct your teen in private, not in front of peers.
- ☐ 23. Share something new you’ve learned with your teen.
- ☐ 24. Have your teen look out the window and draw the view.
- ☐ 25. Adequate sleep not only supports school success—it may keep your teen alive. One in six teen drivers report driving drowsy.
- ☐ 26. Look for a movie that’s based on a book. Read the book with your teen before watching the film.
- ☐ 27. Teach your teen strategies for resolving conflicts, such as “Comment on the problem, not the person.” Name-calling won’t help.
- ☐ 28. If your teen feels stuck and thinks that nothing will ever improve, offer a reminder that even small changes can make a big difference.
- ☐ 29. Ask what activities your teen enjoys doing with you.
- ☐ 30. Be doers rather than observers. Play a sport together today instead of watching sports on TV.
- ☐ 31. Get up early and watch the sunrise with your teen.

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August 2025

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

- ☐ 1. Some school activities begin before school starts. Have your teen check with the school office for a schedule.
- ☐ 2. Encourage your teen to tackle a healthy challenge, such as learning a new skill or hobby, or making friends with someone new.
- ☐ 3. Tell your teen a joke today.
- ☐ 4. Reestablish a school-year sleeping routine. Have your teen go to bed earlier and get up earlier in the morning.
- ☐ 5. Challenge your teen to do a secret good deed for a friend or neighbor.
- ☐ 6. Memorize a poem or a quotation with your teen today.
- ☐ 7. Have a 20-minute DEAR time (Drop Everything and Read).
- ☐ 8. Will your teen need back-to-school clothes? Set a budget and guidelines and let your student make some choices.
- ☐ 9. Encourage your teen to talk with a college student about what life is like on campus.
- ☐ 10. Help your teen find time for regular exercise. It enhances mood and learning ability.
- ☐ 11. Get to know your teen’s friends. Welcome them into your home.
- ☐ 12. At bedtime tonight, tell your teen a story about your own teen years.
- ☐ 13. Help your teen review and update social media privacy settings.
- ☐ 14. Ask your teen to tell you how to get from one place to another. Follow the directions together. Are they correct?
- ☐ 15. Find an interesting word in the dictionary. Challenge family members to use it as often as possible today.
- ☐ 16. Share a news story about someone’s poor life choices and their consequences with your teen. Ask, “What would you do differently?”
- ☐ 17. Enjoy an outdoor activity with your teen. Go for a bike ride or play a game of kickball.
- ☐ 18. Make sure you can access the school’s communications methods, such as an online family portal. If you need help, contact the office.
- ☐ 19. Talk with your teen about the coming school year. What are your student’s goals?
- ☐ 20. Discuss a controversial issue with your teen. Ask, “What do you think?”
- ☐ 21. Visit a local attraction as a family. Ask your teen to write a review.
- ☐ 22. As school begins, check with the office to see how families can help out, at school and at home. Plan to volunteer.
- ☐ 23. Help your teen establish a study area for the new school year.
- ☐ 24. Teachers explain grading policies in the first few days of school. Ask your teen to pay attention and pass the information on to you.
- ☐ 25. Mark dates of important school events on your family calendar. Plan to attend as many events for families as possible.
- ☐ 26. Ask if your teen has any school-related questions or concerns. Work together to find answers and solutions.
- ☐ 27. Teach your teen that having strong feelings is OK, but being disrespectful isn’t—at home or at school.
- ☐ 28. Challenge your teen to join a new club or activity at school this fall. The easiest way to identify strengths is to try things.
- ☐ 29. Show your teen how to use a basic tool, such as a wrench.
- ☐ 30. Watch a silly movie and relax with your teen.
- ☐ 31. Base your academic expectations on your own student, not others. Effective expectations are challenging *and* realistic.

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