

Daily Learning Planner

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

Columbus City Schools
Division of Early Childhood Education



THE
PARENT
INSTITUTE®

February 2023

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

- 1. Ask your child, "What is your first name? What is your last name?" Talk about people it is safe to give this information to.
- 2. Start a "chain of hearts." Cut out small hearts. Each day, write a reason you love your child on one and attach it to the chain.
- 3. Stand facing your child. Have your preschooler pretend to be a mirror and imitate all your movements. Trade places.
- 4. Have an indoor picnic. Spread a blanket on the floor and play music. Let your child help choose the menu.
- 5. Encourage your child to use adjectives. Say, "Fire is" Supply the word *hot* if needed.
- 6. Help your child do something nice for someone else today.
- 7. Pretend together that you and your child are taking a trip. Where will you go? How will you get there? What will you bring?
- 8. Discuss the differences between *night* and *day*. Have your child draw a picture of the night and a picture of the day.
- 9. Cook along with a book! For example, read *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*, then make a bowl of porridge.
- 10. Tap out a simple rhythm with a spoon on the table. See if your child can copy it.
- 11. Have your child pick a letter. Cut out lots of different uppercase and lowercase versions of the letter and have your child make a collage.
- 12. Set up a well-lit corner with pillows and favorite books. Encourage your child to get cozy with books.
- 13. After bedtime, leave a valentine where your child will see it first thing tomorrow morning.
- 14. Play a game of hide and seek with your child.
- 15. Set out different sizes of pots and pans. Ask your child to put the lids on the matching pots and pans.
- 16. Explain that even when things don't turn out right, people can learn and do better next time.
- 17. Ask for your child's opinion about a choice you are making. Should you wear short sleeves or long?
- 18. Read a story together. Later ask your child to retell it from memory.
- 19. Play musical water glasses. Fill glasses with different levels of water and let your child tap on them with a metal spoon.
- 20. Ask your child to help with a household chore. Say "Thank you for helping the family."
- 21. Spring begins next month. Talk with your child about changes you might see.
- 22. "I'd love to!" Use these words when your child asks you to play, read or do a puzzle together.
- 23. Explain to your child that reusing and recycling things helps our Earth.
- 24. Talk with your child about how it feels to apologize when you've done something wrong.
- 25. How many foods can your child think of that are orange? Green?
- 26. Set aside time today to work on a hobby with your child.
- 27. Watch a children's movie as a family. Talk about the characters and the choices they make. Would your child make the same ones?
- 28. Have a pattern day. Ask your child to notice patterns all around, such as a striped shirt or a flowered sheet.