

December 2008

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

- 1. With your child, make a paper chain to count down the number of days left until January 1.
- 2. Talk about how your family can do something for others this holiday season. Do it as a family.
- 3. Make a meal with your child. Talk about why you do some steps before others.
- 4. Visit the library with your child. Check out a book about a famous person in history.
- 5. Teach your child how to make paper snowflakes. Use some to decorate your windows.
- 6. Write fractions on cards. Mix them up. Then have your child put them in order from smallest to greatest.
- 7. Have your child use the newspaper to check temperatures around the nation or world. Where is it coldest?
- 8. Have your child teach *you* something she needs to learn.
- 9. Hug your child, for no reason other than you love him.
- 10. As a family, choose an important news event to follow for a day or two. Share what you learn.
- 11. Give everyone in the family a flashlight and read in bed tonight.
- 12. In the car, have your child estimate how far away the store is. Check with the odometer.
- 13. Talk with your child about the very best present she ever received. What made it special?
- 14. Ask your child about the qualities he values most in friendships. Talk about why values are important.
- 15. Take a walk with your child. Which trees are evergreen? Which ones are deciduous (lose their leaves in winter)?
- 16. Make a list of your child's achievements.
- 17. Set aside some time this month to do something together that you enjoyed as a child.



- 18. At dinner tonight, each of you talk about one gift you'd like to receive that costs no money.
- 19. Look in the TV listings for programs about history and historical figures. Watch one with your child.
- 20. Take the Geography Challenge. Name a state, province or country. Who can call out the capital first?
- 21. Talk with your child about rights and responsibilities.
- 22. Make and send your own family greeting cards. Check the greeting cards in stores for ideas.
- 23. Visit the library. Help your child check out a book about holiday traditions around the world.
- 24. Learn the sign language alphabet with your child. Use it to practice spelling words today.
- 25. Plan a read-aloud evening. Everyone can share a favorite holiday story or poem.
- 26. Review spelling or vocabulary words with your child tonight.
- 27. When you watch TV, ask your child questions: Was that a good idea? What would you do?
- 28. Bake a batch of cookies together.
- 29. Make a puzzle with your child. Glue a picture onto cardboard. Cut it into puzzle shapes.
- 30. Enjoy an outdoor activity with the whole family today. Then come inside for a cup of hot chocolate.
- 31. Cut apart the segments of a comic strip and ask your child to arrange them in order.

Helping Children Learn[®]
Tips Families Can Use to Help Children Do Better in School

Elementary Edition