

Daily Learning Planner

*Ideas parents can use to help children
prepare for school.*

Franklin Early
Childhood Center



THE
PARENT
INSTITUTE®

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

- 1. Help your child make an indoor fort with sofa pillows or furniture draped with a sheet.
- 2. Fill glasses with different amounts of water. Have your child tap them with a spoon and listen to the different tones.
- 3. Let your child invite a friend over. Beforehand, discuss how to be polite.
- 4. With your child, name as many types of lights as you can. For example: flashlights, lamps, candles, holiday lights.
- 5. Read a book with your child about helping others. Talk about the importance of community service.
- 6. Pretend to be snowflakes together. How would you move in a light wind? Practice floating down.
- 7. Find a broken toy. See if you and your child can fix it.
- 8. Help your child make a gift for someone. Have her press her hand into a soft ball of clay. Let the clay dry, then decorate her handprint.
- 9. Measure and weigh your child. Teach him about inches and pounds.
- 10. Look for a community service project to do with your child. Consider collecting and donating clothes or toys to charity.
- 11. Tell your child some family stories.
- 12. Give your child a 5" x 7" card to decorate on one side. Use it as a postcard to send to a friend or relative.
- 13. Read a fairy tale with your child. Talk about favorite parts of the story.
- 14. Help your child make a simple bird feeder. Spread peanut butter on a cardboard tube and roll it in birdseed. Hang it outside.
- 15. If you're cooking with spices, let your child smell each one. Which one smells the best to her?
- 16. Today, have your child point out all the round things he sees.



- 17. Visit a pet store and look at the fish. Discuss their sizes and colors.
- 18. Play school with your child.
- 19. Make a noisemaker with your child. Put beans in a metal tin or can. Shake it to music. Feel the rhythm.
- 20. Give your child 25 pieces of cereal. Have her sort them into piles of five.
- 21. Make a "snowman" together using toothpicks and marshmallows.
- 22. Write some instructions on pieces of paper, such as "Hop on one foot." Draw them out of a hat and follow them for a fun activity.
- 23. Help your child hunt for the first letter of his name today. Look on signs, in books and in newspaper headlines.
- 24. Play Follow the Leader with your child.
- 25. Listen to seasonal music that you like and sing along with your child.
- 26. Point out traffic lights. Can your child tell you the colors of the lights? Talk about what each color means.
- 27. Read at least three books with your child today.
- 28. Put five items of one kind and six items of another kind on a table. Ask your child, "Which group has more?"
- 29. Tell your child a story about when she was a baby.
- 30. Show your child a calendar and talk about how each day of the week has its own name: Monday, Tuesday, etc.
- 31. With your child, use an empty paper towel roll as a megaphone. Shout out, "Happy New Year!"

Helping Children Learn®

Tips Families Can Use to Help Children Do Better in School

