

Daily Learning Planner

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

Santa Rosa District Schools
ESE/Student Services



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. Talk about families. Tell your child that there are many different kinds of families. Give him some examples.
- 2. Help your child look through magazines, newspapers and catalogs to find people showing emotions (happy, angry or surprised).
- 3. Label objects around the house such as a *table*, *chair* and *floor*. This will help your child with word recognition.
- 4. Ask your child category questions. Examples: What jumps? (frogs, crickets.) What swims? (Fish, people.)
- 5. Give your child a glue stick and help her make a collage.
- 6. Let your child help as you set your clocks back one hour for the end of Daylight Saving Time. Check your smoke detectors together.
- 7. Let your child look at several items on a tray for 30 seconds. Then, cover the items on the tray. How many does he remember?
- 8. Drink a glass of apple cider together. If you drink it warm, stir it with a cinnamon stick. Talk about how cider is made.
- 9. Pick a letter of the day. Look for it everywhere with your child.
- 10. Help your child practice saying her name and phone number. Also teach her about dialing 911.
- 11. Give your child four measuring spoons. Ask him to line them up from *biggest* to *smallest*.
- 12. To eliminate dawdling, set a timer when it's time for your child to pick up toys today.
- 13. With your child, pretend to be ducks. Quack around the house.
- 14. Have a tea party with your child. Sip "tea" and eat cookies.
- 15. Call relatives and let your child talk to them on the phone. Encourage her to speak up.
- 16. Hide 10 small objects around the house. Send your child on a treasure hunt to see if he can find them.
- 17. Choose a special place to display your child's artwork.
- 18. Model good table manners for your child. Say, "Please pass the ..." and "Thank you very much."
- 19. Give your child a new job, such as putting laundry in the hamper or feeding your pet.
- 20. Teach your child the "Golden Rule"—treat others as you would like to be treated.
- 21. Have your child help you set the table. Have her name the items as she places them on the table.
- 22. Ask your child to check the weather and draw a picture of it.
- 23. Together, count each step your child takes when he climbs the stairs.
- 24. Float a plastic container in water. How many rubber animals can your child put into the "boat" before it sinks?
- 25. Pick a color. Go room by room and each touch one item of that color.
- 26. Read a story aloud. Then ask your child to draw a picture of what happened *first* and one of what happened *last*.
- 27. Look in the mirror. Ask your child, "What color are your eyes?"
- 28. Let your child make shapes with shaving cream in the empty tub.
- 29. Don't watch TV tonight. Play games together instead.
- 30. Plan a family trip to a nearby museum.



Helping Children Learn
TIPS Families Can Use to Help Children Do Better in School

EARLY CHILDHOOD