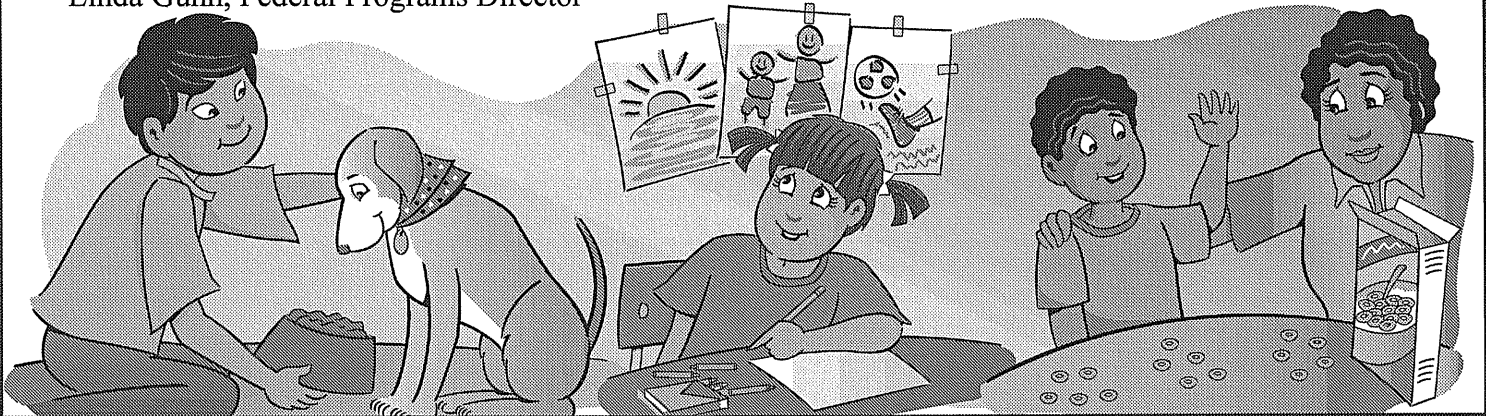


Daily Learning Planner

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

North Tippah School District
Linda Gunn, Federal Programs Director



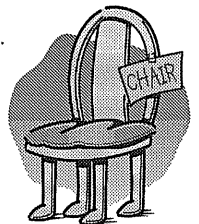
THE
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September • October • November 2014

September 2014

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

- 1. Look through the newspaper with your child. Have her find familiar letters and numbers in headlines.
- 2. Talk about playground safety with your child, such as taking turns on the slide and swings.
- 3. Have your child practice tossing balls into buckets of various sizes from various distances.
- 4. Ink fingers on a stamp pad or with paint, and press on paper. Explain to your child that no two people's fingerprints are alike.
- 5. See how many round objects your child can find.
- 6. Make life-size puppets by outlining your child's body on paper. Help him cut out and decorate the body.
- 7. Discuss the shapes and colors of things you see while riding in the car.
- 8. Let your child experiment with different colors of paint. What color does she get when she mixes blue and yellow?
- 9. Ask your child's opinion about something. If possible, take his advice.
- 10. Tell your child three things you love best about her.
- 11. Make puzzles by gluing magazine pictures to cardboard. Cut the pictures into four pieces. Have your child fit them together.
- 12. Line up chairs like a train. Ask your child to crawl *under* them, *around* them and *on* them. This helps teach relative location words.
- 13. Go for a "green" walk. Ask your child to point out and describe all the green things he sees.
- 14. Give your child three small jars and three kinds of small objects. Have her sort each kind into a separate jar.
- 15. Have a TV-free day. Play fun games instead.
- 16. Play "Silly Simon Says." Ask your child to lift a block without his hands.
- 17. Talk about what makes each season special.
- 18. Play up "now" and "later." Say, "Now we'll clean up. Later we'll eat dinner."
- 19. Say a word and see if your child can think of others that rhyme with it.
- 20. Label objects such as a table, a chair and the floor. This will help your child with word recognition.
- 21. Make cookies in the shape of letters and numbers.
- 22. Paste a picture on cardboard. Punch holes in it. Have your child thread a shoelace through them.
- 23. Place items in a shoe box. Cut a hole in the lid. Let your child reach in and guess what he feels.
- 24. Have your child draw a picture of herself.
- 25. Spend a day focusing on manners. Praise your child when he says *please* and other polite things.
- 26. Have your child name five healthy foods. Fix one for dinner!
- 27. Visit the library today. Ask the librarian about youth programs.
- 28. Make a thank-you gift: Have your child press her hand into clay. Let dry, then paint and decorate.
- 29. Try a "new" food with your child. Guess how it will taste. Compare your answers to the real experience.
- 30. Show your child photos from his life. See if he can guess when he was youngest.



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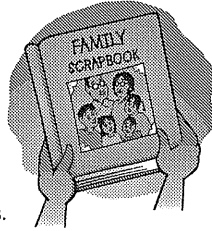
Tips Families Can Use to Help Children Do Better in School



October 2014

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

- 1. Look at a school bus. How is it different from a car?
- 2. Look at a familiar thing in a new way. A shoebox can become a doll's bed; boxes can be houses or buildings.
- 3. Ask your child to make a city with blocks and boxes.
- 4. Carve a shape into one half of a potato and dip it into paint. Make potato prints on a piece of paper.
- 5. Mix one cup each of dry rice and macaroni. Watch as your child separates them into different containers.
- 6. Talk about families. Tell your child that there are many different kinds of families. Give her some examples.
- 7. Ask your child to draw a picture for a loved one.
- 8. Set out different sizes of pots. Ask your child to put the lids on the matching pots and pans.
- 9. Talk with your child about happy and sad feelings. What things cause each kind of feeling?
- 10. Teach your child *hello* in other languages. *Bonjour! Hola! Hafa Adai!*
- 11. Visit your local library and check out some new books. At home, provide a special spot to keep the books.
- 12. Practice moving slowly and quickly. How would a rabbit move? *Quickly*. How about a turtle? *Slowly*.
- 13. Smell different things and describe their scents.
- 14. Take turns telling a story. Say, "Once upon a time, there was a family who lived in" Your child fills in the blank.
- 15. Help your child practice tying his shoes.
- 16. Ask your child, "What would you do if you were the parent for a day?"



- 17. Practice making opposite statements. You say, "The chair is *inside*." Your child says, "The chair is *outside*."
- 18. Sort old toys and clothes with your child. Take them to a charity.
- 19. Have a backward day. Count and walk backward.
- 20. Let your child draw on paper towels with washable markers. Spray the towels with water. Watch the colors blend!
- 21. Discuss opposites: *big* and *little*, *fast* and *slow*.
- 22. Ask questions about the use of common things. What is a house for? What do we do with spoons?
- 23. Pick a color. Wear, eat and look for items of that color today.
- 24. Have your child make a pattern by alternating carrot and celery sticks.
- 25. Practice following directions. Say, for example, "Take some leaves off the pile and make a smaller pile."
- 26. Start an orange foods week. You could eat peaches, cantaloupe, cheese, oranges or carrots.
- 27. Ask your child to close her eyes and describe the sounds she hears.
- 28. Quiz your child on his full name, address and phone number.
- 29. Match feelings and colors. Which color reminds your child of being happy? Sad? Angry? Jealous?
- 30. Discuss with your child that parts make up a whole.
- 31. Record your child talking about an important event in her life.

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

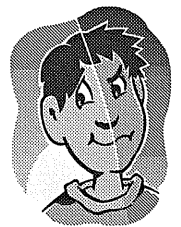
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November 2014

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

- 1. Write down a number. Let your child use clay to mold the number.
- 2. Exercise with your child. Try toe-touching, sit-ups and stretching.
- 3. Ask your child what he is thankful for today.
- 4. Make a paper bag puppet with your child by drawing a face on the bottom flap of a small paper bag.
- 5. Fill glasses with different levels of water and tap lightly on them with a spoon. Notice the different sounds they make.
- 6. Have your child draw or scribble to music.
- 7. Tell your child to think of something that sounds like *pie* (*sky*) or that sounds like *fan* (*man*).
- 8. Make a meal of shapes. Banana slices are circles, a sandwich cut diagonally makes triangles. Name the shapes with your child.
- 9. Invent a new drink with your child. Mix two kinds of juice, for example. Write down your recipe.
- 10. Help your child act out a scene from a story that is familiar to her.
- 11. Keep track of the moon's phases for a month. Your child can draw its shape on the calendar each night.
- 12. Make a "can-do" list of your child's accomplishments. For example, "George can: run, count to 10, zip his coat." Post the list.
- 13. Tell your child a story about when you were little.
- 14. Play with blocks together. Encourage your child to see how high a tower she can build.
- 15. Make your own wrapping paper. Get white freezer paper and let your child decorate it.
- 16. Mix up all the shoes in your closet. Challenge your child to match them back up into pairs.

- 17. Dramatize a favorite nursery rhyme. Pretend to be Humpty Dumpty.
- 18. Read a fairy tale together. Ask your child questions about the story.
- 19. At dinner, have each person give another a compliment.
- 20. Allow your child to use an adult tool (with your supervision). A flashlight is great for beginners.
- 21. Look for pictures that show people's expressions. Ask your child how each person feels.
- 22. Build a fort together! Use a large appliance box, a table draped with blankets or a small tent.
- 23. Look around for different textures. Can your child find something hard? Soft? Bumpy?
- 24. Play "animal charades." Imitate an animal and ask your child to guess what you are.
- 25. Look outside at least three times and describe the weather with words such as *sunny*, *cloudy* or *rainy*.
- 26. Fill a plastic jug with beans to make a maraca.
- 27. Cover an item, such as a leaf, with paper. Rub the top of the paper with a crayon to make an art rubbing.
- 28. Tell your child a "real-life" story tonight. Preschoolers love to hear about things they did as babies.
- 29. Teach "concept" words, such as *warm*, *cold*, *under* and *over*.
- 30. Have your child roll and bend things.



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

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