

Daily Learning Planner

*Ideas parents can use to help children
do well in school.*

North Tippah School District
Linda Gunn, Federal Programs Director



THE
PARENT
INSTITUTE®

September • October • November 2014

September 2014

- 1. Have your child write her name in a vertical column. She can use each letter to begin a line of a poem.
- 2. This is Library Card Month. Make sure your child has a library card.
- 3. Help your child look for maps in the newspaper. How many can he find?
- 4. Go outside and show your child which way is *north, south, east* and *west*.
- 5. Challenge your child to draw a picture of an imaginary garden. How many colors can she use?
- 6. Visit an interesting place in your town. Then have your child create an ad to tell others about it. Why should they go there, too?
- 7. Name different types of punctuation with your child. Look for examples of each.
- 8. It's International Literacy Day. Plan a regular reading time each day.
- 9. Use time in the car to review homework, such as spelling words.
- 10. Make sure you and your child know school rules. Talk about one school rule tonight.
- 11. Avoid library fines. Have a box or basket to keep library books in.
- 12. Allow your child to stay up late to read tonight.
- 13. Have your child paint to music. Play different types of songs for each painting. Discuss how the music affects the art.
- 14. Take your child out for breakfast, or serve a favorite breakfast at home. Make this a regular habit.
- 15. Ask your child to name his favorite book. Why does he like it?
- 16. Challenge everyone on math facts. Who can recite the multiplication tables with the fewest mistakes?



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- 17. Show your child 10 objects. Have her close her eyes while you remove one. Can she guess what's missing?
- 18. Take a fraction walk with your child— $1/2$ of cars are blue, $4/5$ of houses have a gray roof.
- 19. Ask your child to tell you something he learned in school today. Then tell him something *you* learned today.
- 20. Watch a sports event with your child. Talk about what you see.
- 21. Exercise as a family. Choose an activity everyone will enjoy.
- 22. Make a list with your child of ocean creatures. Have her draw one.
- 23. Watch a funny TV show with your child. Then have him draw a comic strip showing what it was about.
- 24. Give your child a whistle to blow if she is in danger. Warn her that she should only blow it when there is danger.
- 25. Talk about books you loved when you were your child's age.
- 26. Johnny Appleseed was born in 1744. Cook an apple dish with your child.
- 27. Make up a secret code with your child. Send messages to each other.
- 28. Watch a nature video with your child. Ask him what he learned.
- 29. Choose a place for things that go to school. Help your child get into the habit of putting her things there each day.
- 30. Measure how far your child can jump. How many jumps to go around your house? Down the block?

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October 2014

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- 1. Choose an object, such as a paper clip. Ask your child to figure out different ways to use it. This promotes creativity and problem-solving.
- 2. When your child brings home schoolwork, focus on what is right before noting what is wrong.
- 3. With your child, time different things you and she do in a day.
- 4. Play math facts baseball. Quiz each other. A correct answer is a "base" hit.
- 5. Bake cupcakes with your child. Use colors of icing to demonstrate fractions of the cakes—halves, fourths or thirds.
- 6. Talk to your child about how recycling paper can help save rain forests.
- 7. Create a joke notebook. You and your child can add jokes you read or hear.
- 8. If your child talks about a bully, listen. Tell the school if there is a problem.
- 9. Plan something your family can do to help reduce hunger in your town or the world.
- 10. Share family history with your child. Look at photos and tell stories.
- 11. Plan an exercise "date" with your child. Pick an activity you both enjoy, such as walking or tossing a ball.
- 12. Visit the library with your child. Check out a book about food.
- 13. Look through the newspaper with your child. What headlines interest him? Read an article together and discuss it.
- 14. Teach your child how to protect herself by saying *no* or walking away from fights.
- 15. Give your child a calendar. Suggest he fill it with important notes about homework, tests and school activities.
- 16. With your child, make a fall decoration for your table.
- 17. Together, learn to count to 10 in two languages other than your own.

- 18. Have a "Family Night In." Pop a big bowl of popcorn. Everyone curl up with a good book.
- 19. Start a project with your child, such as building a model or a doll house. Make plans to work on it together regularly.
- 20. Leave your child a complimentary note where she will find it later.
- 21. Ask your child about the best present he ever got. What made it special?
- 22. Make a recording of math facts (*3 times 2 is ...*). Leave time for a response, then give the correct answer. Ask your child to answer before hearing the solution.
- 23. Eat dinner by candlelight (supervise carefully). Talk about how electricity changed daily life.
- 24. Have a "No TV" night. Read or play a game.
- 25. Help your child start a collection. Collecting can boost sorting and research skills.
- 26. Make a big pot of soup. Let your child help you measure.
- 27. Review math facts at the dinner table tonight.
- 28. Teach your child ways to handle stress—exercising, getting enough sleep, talking about problems.
- 29. Have everyone write down two positive things about each member of the family. Read the lists out loud at dinner.
- 30. Read a book together about someone from a different ethnic group.
- 31. Talk about careers with your child. What would she like to do?



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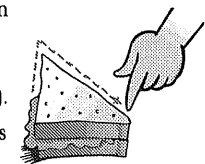
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November 2014

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- 1. Watch a TV show with your child. Ask questions such as "Why do you think that character did that?"
- 2. Be creative in the kitchen. See who can invent the greatest tasting new pizza topping.
- 3. Ask your child what he is thankful for today.
- 4. Flash cards are a great way to memorize facts. Take them in the car and use travel time for learning.
- 5. Help your child make a list of things, such as vegetables. Then have her put them in alphabetical order.
- 6. Ask your child to pick a book. Take turns reading it to each other.
- 7. Hold a family meeting. Make some goals as a family.
- 8. Make today your child's special day. Let him pick what you'll do and eat.
- 9. Plan a family talent show. Have everyone practice their acts this week.
- 10. Have your child fill in calendar blanks with weather reports, birthdays, special activities or notes to you.
- 11. With your child, make awards (enough for all) for your talent show.
- 12. Help your child write a letter to the editor of the local newspaper about an issue affecting children.
- 13. Make an "I am special" scrapbook with your child.
- 14. Write new or difficult words on index cards. Review regularly.
- 15. Let your child quiz you about things she is learning in school.
- 16. Make a schedule for watching TV this week. Plan how you will keep your viewing time under 2 hours a day.
- 17. Make a jigsaw puzzle with your child. Glue a picture from a magazine onto cardboard. Cut it into puzzle pieces.

- 18. A rebus is a story that replaces some words with pictures. Make a rebus with your child.
- 19. Talk with your child about a choice one of you needs to make. Discuss all the options and possible consequences.
- 20. Write down the ages of family members. Express them in math terms—Dad is 25 years older than Mike.
- 21. See how many ways your child can write a number. For example, 4 can be written 1+3, 2+2 or 6-2.
- 22. Exchange notes instead of talking. (It's great when things get noisy!)
- 23. At the library, use books or the Internet to learn more about careers that interest your child.
- 24. Ask your child to think of an animal that starts with each letter of the alphabet (skip the letter X).
- 25. Have your child write directions for making his favorite sandwich. Then follow them together.
- 26. Ask your child to pretend she's mayor for a day. What would she do to make your community better?
- 27. Locate cities, states and countries your child hears on TV on a map.
- 28. Make up a story with your child.
- 29. Keep track of everything your family eats for a day. Compare your diet to health recommendations.
- 30. Read a book about your town together.



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