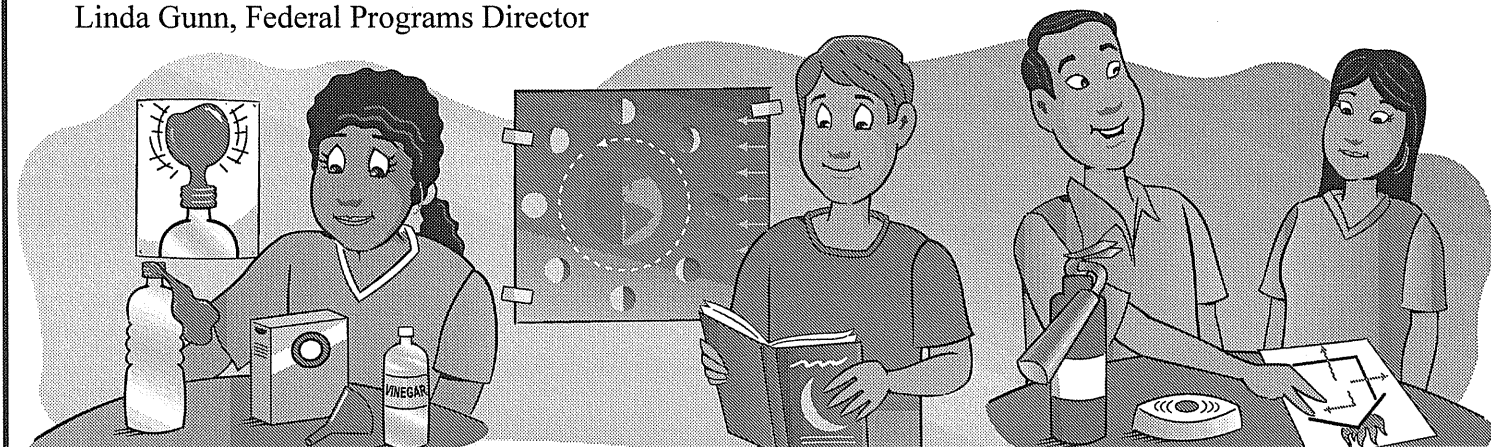


# Daily Learning Planner

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

North Tippah School District  
Linda Gunn, Federal Programs Director



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September • October • November 2014

## September 2014

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

- 1. Talk about your child's summer. Can he name three things he learned?
- 2. Cook your child's favorite breakfast before school. Talk about what you think the day will be like.
- 3. Ask your child a specific question about school, such as "What is your hardest class?"
- 4. Help your child pick a regular time and place to study.
- 5. Watch your child's favorite TV show with her. Ask questions, such as "Who is your favorite character? Why?"
- 6. Choose a recipe with your child. Shop for ingredients, cook and enjoy the results together.
- 7. Teach your child a useful new skill, such as how to do laundry.
- 8. It's International Literacy Day. Check out a book about another culture from the library and read it with your child.
- 9. Learn about your state flag. What does it represent?
- 10. Ask to see your child's homework. Tell him how the things he is learning have helped *you* in life.
- 11. Take advantage of car trips with your child. You can talk privately without interruption.
- 12. Have a "stay-up-late-and-read" night. Let your child stay up as late as she wants, as long as she's reading.
- 13. Improve your child's diet. Let him choose any fruit or vegetable at the grocery store.
- 14. Plan a fun family activity, such as making pizza or playing mini golf.
- 15. Help your child organize her room.
- 16. Expect your child to study every day, even when there's no homework.
- 17. Have your child practice shaking hands and making eye contact. It will make social situations (and future job interviews!) easier.
- 18. Help your child make a specific plan for reaching a goal.
- 19. Have your child start an "anger diary." He can write down when and why he gets angry and how he handles it.
- 20. Don't pay your child for regular chores. Helping out is every family member's responsibility.
- 21. Work a crossword puzzle with your child.
- 22. Think of synonyms with your child, such as *examine/inspect* and *run/jog*.
- 23. Have your child play you her favorite song. Play one for her that you loved at her age.
- 24. Ask your child to tell you about something he learned today.
- 25. Help your child make a to-do-list. She can check off completed items.
- 26. After watching a TV show together, ask your child to think of a different way the show could have ended.
- 27. Choose a place to keep library books. Your child will always be able to find something to read.
- 28. Honor Good Neighbor Day by doing a good deed for someone.
- 29. Let your child help you research a major purchase to find the best deal.
- 30. Give your child a genuine compliment, such as "I love how you're always on time."



**Helping Students Learn**

Tips Families Can Use to Help Students Do Better in School

# October 2014

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

- 1. Ask your child, "If you could change one thing in the entire world what would it be?" Listen carefully to his answer.
- 2. Start a list of places your family wants to visit. Find them on the map.
- 3. How would your child handle peer pressure to drink or smoke? Use role-playing to practice.
- 4. Rethink house rules. Are they right for your child's age and maturity?
- 5. Encourage your child to meet at least three new people outside of her normal group of friends.
- 6. Try to remember your life as a middle schooler. It can help you relate to your child.
- 7. Help your child make a savings plan for a special purchase.
- 8. Notice whether your child is giving his homework his best effort. If so, praise his responsibility.
- 9. Watch a TV show with your child. Notice how men and women are portrayed. Are the characters realistic?
- 10. Brainstorm as a family about ways to make life more efficient and more organized.
- 11. It's Computer Learning Month. Can your child teach you something about computers?
- 12. Start a family journal of highlights and accomplishments.
- 13. Think of something you and your child would like to learn. Check out a how-to book at the library.
- 14. When your child finishes reading a book, ask about the characters, the setting and the plot. What is the significance of the title?
- 15. Let your child take over a new responsibility.



- 16. Discuss a TV ad with your child. How did it try to convince you to buy?
- 17. Next time your child is stressed out, talk about different ways to handle it. She might exercise or write in a journal.
- 18. Plan and fix a meal with your child that includes all the food groups.
- 19. Read a story aloud as a family.
- 20. Make a "school project kit" with your child. This can prevent last-minute shopping trips for supplies.
- 21. Ask your child a thought-provoking question, such as "What do you think the future will be like?"
- 22. Let your child choose a decoration for his room. This boosts creativity.
- 23. Tell your child you love her.
- 24. Suggest that your child start a book club with his friends.
- 25. Tell your child a joke today.
- 26. Take a look at your child's study spot. Is it free of distractions?
- 27. Share a photo of yourself as a middle schooler. Tell your child some stories about what that age was like for you.
- 28. Share an article that might interest your child. Discuss it together.
- 29. Encourage your child to clean her locker at school.
- 30. Ask your child about his teachers.
- 31. Do something you've never done before with your child. Try a new food. Visit a new place.

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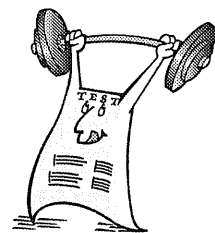
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# November 2014

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

- 1. Suggest you and your child exchange "special surprises." Do something unexpected for one another.
- 2. Help your child think of a fun, educational volunteer experience to try.
- 3. Do a library card "checkup." Does every member of the family have a card? If not, plan to get one.
- 4. Talk to your child about drugs. Discussion is one of the best kinds of prevention.
- 5. Allow your child to subscribe to a magazine he'd enjoy, as long as it's age-appropriate.
- 6. Select a book the whole family might enjoy. Pass it around until everyone has read it. Afterwards, discuss it as a group.
- 7. Have your child research prices and quality before she buys something.
- 8. Exchange persuasive letters with your child. Try to convince each other of something.
- 9. Take a walk with your child today.
- 10. Suggest that your child keep a homework diary. Which study methods work best for him?
- 11. Show your child photographs of herself when she was younger.
- 12. Ask your child to name a favorite author. Why does he like him or her?
- 13. Discuss recent world events at the dinner table.
- 14. Ask your child a specific question about school, such as, "Which class is your favorite and why?"
- 15. Give your child a camera and ask her to record "A day in the life of our family."
- 16. Celebrate Geography Awareness Week. Display a map in your home.

- 17. Make a healthy snack for you and your child to share. Ask him something about his day, such as "What did you do in science?"
- 18. Encourage your child to write a letter to a long-distance relative.
- 19. Ask your child what she is thankful for today.
- 20. Give your child a test tip: Answer the easiest questions first.
- 21. Think of someone you and your child admire. Post that person's picture in your home.
- 22. Think of a movie based on a book. Read the book as a family, then watch the film.
- 23. Have your child write a compliment or complaint letter to a company.
- 24. Make a list of healthy breakfast-to-go foods your child can grab quickly.
- 25. Ask your child to pretend he's mayor for the day. Have him list three ideas that would make your community a better place.
- 26. Write your child a thank-you note about something helpful she did.
- 27. See how many words you and your child can use to describe the day's weather. For example, *foggy*, *cloudy*, *muggy*, *wet*, *dreary*.
- 28. Have your child read aloud to a younger sibling, a neighbor or you.
- 29. Take turns with your child making statements. Decide whether each is fact or opinion.
- 30. Take your child to a museum.



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