

Daily Learning Planner

*Ideas families can use to help students
do well in school*

Prairie Heights Middle School



THE
PARENT
INSTITUTE®

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

- ☐ 1. Help your child set and write down goals for the coming year. Set some goals for yourself, as well.
- ☐ 2. Ask your child to name a few favorite family activities from last year. Make a plan to do them again this year, if possible.
- ☐ 3. Share a poem. How does your child interpret it?
- ☐ 4. How many *homophones* (words that sound alike, but mean different things) can your child think of? For example, *course* and *coarse*.
- ☐ 5. Ask to hear about one thing your child is looking forward to right now.
- ☐ 6. Encourage your child to jot down unfamiliar words while reading to look up later.
- ☐ 7. Leave sports coaching to the coach. Sideline coaching from families is distracting and will embarrass your child.
- ☐ 8. Today, talk to your child as you would to a friend or coworker.
- ☐ 9. Discuss what life was like 25 years ago. What was the same? What was different?
- ☐ 10. Encourage your child to read during quiet times at home. Before bed is a perfect time to read.
- ☐ 11. Ask what your child likes most about this year's classes.
- ☐ 12. Have your child select and read a news article to you, then share an opinion about it. Listen, then share your opinion.
- ☐ 13. Plan to attend as many school events for families as possible in the rest of the school year.
- ☐ 14. Ask your child to figure out the average of something: family members' ages, number of pairs of socks owned by family members, etc.
- ☐ 15. Have your child write frequently-used, hard-to-spell words in alphabetical order in an old address book. They'll be easy to look up.
- ☐ 16. Play Math Jeopardy. Say a number. Can your child come up with a problem for which it is the answer?
- ☐ 17. Look for a CPR class to take with your child.
- ☐ 18. Think of *synonyms* for words with your child. For example, a synonym for tired is fatigued.
- ☐ 19. Ask, "What one thing do you wish our family would do differently at home?" Be open to your child's suggestion.
- ☐ 20. Take turns making statements with your child. Identify each one as either *fact* or *opinion*.
- ☐ 21. Get up early this morning and take a walk around your neighborhood with your child. Does it seem different early in the morning?
- ☐ 22. Tell your child a story that teaches an important lesson.
- ☐ 23. Ask family members to describe ways they used math today.
- ☐ 24. Teach your child to ask *who*, *what*, *when*, *where*, *why* and *how* when doing research.
- ☐ 25. Talk together about your child's plans for the day.
- ☐ 26. Ask what conditions make it easier for your child to do assignments. Knowing how they learn helps students do better.
- ☐ 27. Play a math fact game. Get a deck of cards. Each player turns over one card. The player who correctly multiplies the cards first wins them.
- ☐ 28. Discuss a controversial issue with your child. Ask, "What do you think?"
- ☐ 29. Work on a hobby with your child.
- ☐ 30. Name a location anywhere in the world. Take turns with your child telling one thing you would like to see there.
- ☐ 31. Make pizza as a family tonight. Get creative with toppings.