

# Daily Learning Planner

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

Oswego City School District



THE  
**PARENT**  
INSTITUTE®

June • July • August 2022

## June 2022

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

- 1. Have family members set some summer goals. List books you want to read and things you want to do.
- 2. Look at a photo in a news article with your child. Talk about it. Then read the article together.
- 3. Practice math skills with real-life problems. If a toy costs \$9.99, how much change will your child get back from a \$20 bill?
- 4. Most libraries have summer reading programs for kids—in person and online. Sign your child up today.
- 5. Encourage your child to start a “Something I Learned Today” journal and write it in all summer.
- 6. When your child has a problem, offer two possible solutions. Let your child decide which one to choose.
- 7. Have your child help you put a first-aid kit together (or restock the one you have). Review basic first aid.
- 8. Make a list of 10 things your child learned in school this year. Post it on the refrigerator.
- 9. Have your child find items outside that are *smooth, shiny, flexible* or *round*.
- 10. Ask, “If you were an animal, which animal would you be and why?”
- 11. Which way is the wind blowing? Help your child hang a strand of yarn from a tree to find out.
- 12. Teach financial responsibility. Help your child learn about budgeting and saving as well as spending.
- 13. Make a graph together of the types of pets in your neighborhood.
- 14. Fill glasses with different amounts of water. Have your child tap them and listen to the different tones.
- 15. Help your child plan three healthy breakfasts.
- 16. Have your child put an ice cube outside in the sun. What happens after five minutes? After 10?
- 17. Prepare a fruit salad for dessert. When shopping for ingredients, choose one fruit your child has never tasted.
- 18. Make an “I’m Bored” box with your child. Fill it with craft activities and things to read.
- 19. Have your child use a measuring tape to measure objects in your home.
- 20. Talk about a familiar place with your child. Is it *north, south, east* or *west* of your home?
- 21. Have your child make a poster with some summer safety tips.
- 22. Ask your child to give you examples of a complete sentence, an incomplete sentence and a run-on sentence.
- 23. Let your child dissolve salt in a glass of water. Watch for a few days. What happens?
- 24. Eat outside tonight! Have your child choose at least one menu item.
- 25. Take an imaginary space trip with your child. What would your spaceship look like? Which planets would you visit?
- 26. Play a screen-free game with your child today.
- 27. See how many places in your home (not including books) your child can find words to read.
- 28. Look in a newspaper for interesting words. Help your child look up their meanings in the dictionary or online.
- 29. Cover a leaf (vein side up) with paper. Have your child rub with a crayon.
- 30. Review a few math facts with your child each day, all summer long.

# July 2022

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

1. Ask your child to fill a tall, thin cup with water. Then pour the water into a short, broad cup. Does the amount look different?
2. Make unusual prints with your child by dipping flowers into paint and then pressing them onto paper.
3. Make up a short question. Ask your child to answer in rhyme.
4. Talk about the word *independence* with your child today. What does it mean?
5. Read under the stars. Take a blanket and book outside and read with your child by flashlight.
6. Have a “pattern” day. Ask your child to notice patterns all around, from street addresses to striped fabrics.
7. Make a list of words for your child to find and circle in the newspaper.
8. Ask your child *how* and *why* questions to provide reasoning practice.
9. Tonight, allow a few minutes after the light is off for quiet conversation with your child.
10. Have your child write a letter or draw a picture for a living author of a book. Send it to the author in care of the book’s publisher.
11. Walk as fast as you can around your block with your child. Time yourselves. Try to improve your time next week.
12. Pick a new word out of the dictionary. Everyone try to use that word at least three times today!
13. Start a sentence-a-day story. In a special notebook, take turns with your child writing a story one sentence at a time.
14. Ask if your child has ever had a dream that was really scary. What was it about?
15. Ask your child to tell you about a favorite family tradition.
16. On a sunny day, stand on the driveway or sidewalk with your child. Trace each other’s shadows with chalk.
17. Teach your child how to disagree respectfully.
18. Learn how to say “I love you” in at least three other languages. Share this with your child.
19. Have your child tie a string between two chairs. Use a balloon and play indoor volleyball together.
20. Ask about the nicest thing a friend has ever done for your child.
21. As a family, do something nice together for your neighborhood, such as picking up litter.
22. Encourage your child to draw a self-portrait.
23. Help your child find a hobby. Check the library or online for ideas.
24. Set aside time today to work on your child’s new hobby together.
25. Play alphabet games with your child. List countries, animals or cars in alphabetical order.
26. Is your child turning into a summer couch potato? Limit screen time and encourage outdoor play.
27. Give your child a magnet. Together, test to see which things in your house contain iron.
28. In a paper cup, plant the seeds from a fruit your child has eaten. Water them and see if they grow.
29. Sing a familiar song and leave out some words. Does your child know which words you left out?
30. Remember, kids need downtime to think, imagine and play.
31. Tell a story about when you were your child’s age.

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# August 2022

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

1. Ask your child to help you plan a family activity.
2. Give your child a leafy stalk of celery to put into colored water. Watch the color rise into the stalk over the next week.
3. Have your child draw on white paper with a white candle. The picture will appear when your child paints over it.
4. Watch or read the weather forecast with your child today. Locate the hottest and the coolest locations on a map.
5. Play a card game that uses math with your child.
6. Enjoy some outdoor physical activity as a family today.
7. Check out the school’s website. Is there information posted for your child’s grade level?
8. If your child will take the bus to school, make sure you both know where and when it will stop.
9. Have a Backward Day. Walk backward, count backward, etc.
10. Make a sound, such as jingling keys. Ask your child to guess what you are doing without looking.
11. Help your child use ads for school supplies to figure out where to get the best buys.
12. Mute the sound on a TV show. With your child, make up the dialogue.
13. Have a Digital Device-Free Day. Enjoy screen-free activities together.
14. Create an art gallery. Frame your child’s artwork (a homemade paper frame is fine). Rotate the work on display frequently.
15. Do you have errands to do? Have your child help you write a to-do list.
16. Make your child laugh! Tell a joke, read a funny story or poem, sing a silly song or draw a cartoon.
17. Start a made-up story. “A man went down the road and met a ...” Let your child finish the story.
18. Have a special breakfast with your child today. Talk about goals for the new school year.
19. Help your child reestablish school-year bedtime and wake-up routines.
20. Play a game of hide and seek with your child.
21. Plant an herb garden in pots on your window sill. Let your child smell and taste the leaves and describe the flavors.
22. Have your child use the telephone number keys to make words. For example, 5-6-8-3 = Love.
23. Choose a “person of the week.” Read more about this person with your child.
24. Talk with your child about the importance of telling an adult when a person is being bullied.
25. Ask your child to tell you about a favorite summer memory.
26. Set aside time every day for reading aloud. Sometimes, let your child read to you.
27. Write a secret message in lemon juice on paper. Have your child hold it over a light bulb to read it.
28. Put on music and spend 15 minutes drawing or writing with your child. Let the music be your inspiration.
29. Visit a local historic site with your child today.
30. For smoother mornings, have your child choose and lay out clothes the night before.
31. Before driving, show your child the route on a map. Ask for help navigating.

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