Middle School

Daily Learning Planner

Ideas parents can use to help students do well in school

Dolton School District #148



PARENI INSTITUTE®

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- □ 1. Give your child a calendar (in print or in an app). Have her use it to keep track of school assignments and events.
- □ 2. Encourage your child to start a diary or journal.
- □ 3. Ask your child to name two ways he could be a better friend.
- 4. With your child, make a list of the best times you had together during the past year. Schedule time to do them again this year, if possible.
- □ 5. Talk with your child about an abstract concept, such as *justice*.
- □ 6. Discuss your expectations for your child's long-range education goals.
- 7. Have your child write down an estimate of how long an assignment will take. Then have her time how long it really takes.
- □ 8. Ask your child, "If you could change one thing about the world, what would it be?"
- 9. Review your rules about drug and alcohol use with your child.
- 10. Let your child invite friends to stay for a family dinner. It's a great way to learn more about his peer group.
- □ 11. Make sure your child eats a nutritious breakfast every day.
- □ 12. Have your child write a letter to an author, lawmaker or celebrity.
- 13. Ask your child what cartoon character she would be if she could pick any one.
- 14. Try to have a rhyming conversation with your child. It may be tough at first, but you'll get better!
- □ 15. Fill a basket with newspaper clippings and other conversation starters. Choose one at dinner.
- 16. Ask your child about his most challenging school subject. Together, brainstorm about ways to make it easier.

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

- □ 17. While your child does homework, do some quiet work yourself.
- □ 18. Visit the library. Look for a book your child and you might both enjoy.
- □ 19. Share a poem with your child. How does she interpret it?
- 20. Don't use problems with homework as an excuse to criticize your child or argue about other issues.
- 21. Keep credit card offers you receive. Ask your child to figure out the monthly interest on a \$100 purchase for each card.
- □ 22. Comment on one specific task your child did well today.
- □ 23. Ask your child to teach you something he's learning in school.
- 24. Show your child photos of herself as a baby. Talk about how special she was—and still is.
- 25. Let your child choose a recipe to follow from a cookbook.
- 26. Learn a new word at breakfast. Challenge family members to use it three times during the day.
- 27. Get a deck of cards. Each player turns over one card. The player who correctly multiplies the cards fastest wins them.
- □ 28. Compliment your child on something about his appearance today.
- 29. A *palindrome* is a word or phrase that reads the same forward and backward, like *mom* and *top spot*. Together, think of others.
- 30. List your priorities, including family. Does your schedule reflect them?
- 31. Point out an example of prejudice to your child. Talk about ways to deal with intolerance.

