Daily Learning Planner: Ideas Parents Can Use to Help Children Prepare for School—Try a New Idea Every Day!

Prince Edward County Elementary School
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1. Encourage your child to describe a song on the radio. Is it fast or slow? Happy or sad? Is it a man or a woman singing?
2. Have a jump rope contest today. See how many jumps your child can do in a row.
3. This is the third of the month. With your child, look everywhere for the number 3 today.
4. Gather some floating and sinking objects. Supervise as your child tests which will float or sink in water.
5. Ask your child to name five foods that help us grow and two foods that taste good but do not help us grow.
6. When coming home from an errand, give your child responsibility for carrying something into the house.
7. Look outside together. Each of you draw a picture of today’s weather.
8. Let your child draw on paper with a white candle. His picture will magically appear when he paints over it with watercolors.
9. Ask your child unusual questions: “What if your hair were made of spaghetti?”
10. Give your child an empty plastic bucket and a wooden spoon. Let her tap the beat to music on her “drum.”
11. Cut part of a picture out of a magazine. Paste it on a blank sheet of paper. Ask your child to complete the picture.
12. Start a made-up story. “A boy went down the road and he met a … .” Let your child finish the story.
13. Have your child look in a mirror and name the features on her face (eyes, nose, etc.).
14. Show and tell family members that you love them today.
15. Point out a police car, fire truck or ambulance. Explain to your child that people who drive these vehicles are going to help someone.
16. Spring begins next month. Talk about the changes your child will see.
17. Check out a library book with pictures of faraway places. Look at it with your child.
18. Make your child laugh! Tell a joke, read a funny story or poem, sing a silly song or draw a cartoon.
19. Put uncooked rice or paper clips into plastic containers. Tightly seal, and let your child shake. Do different items make different sounds?
20. Model good table manners for your child. Say “Please pass the …” and “Thank you very much.”
21. Have your child count to five. If this is easy, keep going to 10 or 20.
22. Talk with your child about something he has done well today.
23. Show your child how to “sew” by stringing yarn through holes punched in cardboard.
24. Will your child start kindergarten in the fall? Find out when to register.
25. Read three poems or rhymes with your child today.
26. Talk about what your child can do “all by myself!”
27. Expect your child to pick up toys after play time. Turn on some “clean up time” music!
28. Have a No-TV Night. Read or play games as a family.