

Daily Learning Planner

*Ideas parents can use to help children
prepare for school*

Early Intervention Program
Intermediate Unit 1



THE
PARENT
INSTITUTE®

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

- 1. Mix up all of the shoes in your closet. Challenge your child to match them back into pairs.
- 2. Start a chain of hearts. Cut out small paper hearts. Each day, write a reason you love your child on one and attach it to the chain.
- 3. With your child, build something with blocks, such as a barn or tower.
- 4. Sing "Old MacDonald Had a Farm" together and take turns doing the animal sounds.
- 5. Let your child use shaving cream to make shapes in the bathtub.
- 6. Take turns telling a story. Say, "There once was a family who lived in a _____." Your child fills in the blank.
- 7. With your child, practice walking sideways today.
- 8. Involve your child in a job you have been meaning to do. Organizing toys is a great idea.
- 9. Talk about the four seasons and things that make each one different. Ask your child to tell you her favorite season.
- 10. As you do errands, help your child talk with people about the jobs they do.
- 11. Paint pictures with your child using only black and white paints.
- 12. Call your local fire station and ask if you can schedule a visit with your child.
- 13. How many animals can your child think of that have fur?
- 14. Ask your child to tell you about something he loves.
- 15. Talk about the meanings of *first* and *last*. Have your child touch the first and last objects in a row.
- 16. Does your child need new books? Plan a neighborhood book swap.
- 17. Ask your child funny questions that make her think. What would happen if candy grew on trees?
- 18. Play catch with your child. Stand close and toss a large, light ball back and forth.
- 19. Involve your child in preparing tonight's dinner. He can help set the table, or mix ingredients.
- 20. Help your child practice cutting with safety scissors. Have her cut in a straight line and then in a curve.
- 21. Make a "machine" with your child. Use markers to decorate a box with dials and buttons. Pretend to use your machine. What does it do?
- 22. Take a walk with your child after dark. How many stars can you see?
- 23. Read something in the newspaper with your child today.
- 24. Exercise your child's large motor skills. Take him to a playground where he can run, jump and climb safely.
- 25. Cut a detailed picture from a magazine. Find three things in it that your child is familiar with. Ask her to find them and circle them.
- 26. Look at a weather forecast with your child today. Compare where you live to the rest of the country.
- 27. Cut a paper plate into wedges. Ask your child to fit the pieces into a circle again.
- 28. Stand your child against a wall. Use a spoon as a ruler and see how many spoons tall he is.

Helping Children Learn
EARLY CHILDHOOD
Tips Families Can Use to Help Children Do Better in School