1. This is Library Card Sign-Up Month. Make sure everyone in your family has a library card—and uses it!

2. Designate a box, basket or folder as your child’s "special place" to keep important papers.

3. Provide a regular place to display your child's best schoolwork. Change the display often.

4. Have a family dinner by candlelight. Share the week's experiences.

5. Teach your child how to make a healthy snack. Enjoy it together.

6. Tonight, talk with your child about the week ahead. Plan to do this every Sunday night.

7. Set a regular homework time. Choose the time with your child.

8. It's International Literacy Day. Read a favorite book with your child.

9. Hold a "guess that number" contest: "How many noodles are in this bag?" "How many cookies are in that box?"

10. Start a family savings jar. Decide on a goal together.

11. If you haven’t met your child’s teacher, plan to.

12. Take your child out for breakfast, or serve his favorite breakfast food at home.

13. Visit the library and help your child check out a book about space.

14. Ask what your child is most looking forward to this school year.

15. Talk about how to be safe going to and from school.

16. At dinner, talk about three ways you used math today. Ask everyone in the family to tell how they used math.

17. Today is Citizenship Day. With your child, discuss ways to be a good citizen.

18. Plan an early bedtime so everyone can read in bed.

19. Have your child name five jobs that interest her. Help her interview someone in at least one of these jobs or fields.

20. Have your child list the ways reading and writing happen in your house.

21. Write down 10 of your child's successes this week and 10 of your own. Post the list where you can both see it.

22. Have your child write or dictate a short story about a favorite teacher.

23. It's the Autumnal Equinox. Help your child look up the word equinox. What does it mean?

24. Watch the news with your child. On a world map, locate a place that was mentioned.

25. Help your child research a question that he does not know the answer to.

26. Johnny Appleseed was born in 1774. Visit a grocery store and choose a new variety of apple for lunch or a snack.

27. Make sure you and your child know school rules. Post the rules on your refrigerator.

28. Have your child set a weekly goal and write it down. You set one, too!

29. Have your child tell you her favorite animals and why she likes them.

30. Does your child know how many days each month has? Teach him the mnemonic rhyme "Thirty days hath..."
**Daily Learning Planner: Ideas Parents Can Use to Help Children Do Well in School—Try a New Idea Every Day!**

- **October 2015**
  - 1. Get to know your town. Look in the newspaper for local things to do with your child this month.
  - 2. Pick a word of the day. Challenge everyone to use it in a sentence. Make this a daily habit.
  - 3. Play math facts baseball. Quiz each other. A correct answer is a "base" hit.
  - 4. Take turns talking about the best and worst parts of your day.
  - 5. It’s Fire Prevention Week. Talk to your child about fire safety today.
  - 6. How many words can you each make from the letters in OCTOBER?
  - 7. When your child brings home schoolwork, focus on what she got right before noting what was wrong.
  - 8. Stay up late and read books by flashlight with your child.
  - 9. Visit the library with your child and check out a book about birds.
  - 10. At the market, let your child pick out an unfamiliar vegetable. Find a recipe and give it a try!
  - 11. Ask your child to tell you the most interesting thing he learned today.
  - 12. Make leaf rubbings together. Put a leaf, vein side up, on newspaper. Cover it with thin paper and rub with a crayon.
  - 13. Pick an interesting article from the newspaper. Ask your child to read it to you while you prepare dinner.
  - 14. Have family members make lists of places they’d like to visit. Talk about your lists.
  - 15. Tell your child about one of your favorite books. Ask about one of hers.
  - 17. Keep a book handy for your child to read when you are waiting in line or at the doctor’s office.
  - 18. It’s Hunger Awareness Month. Do something with your child to relieve hunger in your town or in the world.
  - 19. Teach your child to protect himself by saying no, walking away from fights and telling an adult.
  - 20. Help your child find out what’s inside a seed. Soak a dry bean overnight. Let her remove the coat and pull the halves apart.
  - 21. Share family stories with your child. Ask relatives to share some, too.
  - 22. Have your child read to you as you clean up after supper.
  - 23. Talk with your child about nutritious food choices.
  - 24. Have everyone pitch in for a half-hour “blitz” of house cleaning. It teaches responsibility.
  - 25. Go for a fall nature walk as a family.
  - 26. Learning is a lifelong activity. Today, plan to learn a new skill with your child.
  - 27. It’s Theodore Roosevelt’s birthday. Help your child look up interesting facts about this president and protector of the environment.
  - 29. Write a nice note to your child and tuck it where he’ll find it.
  - 30. Make it a “No TV” night. Read together instead.

- **November 2015**
  - 1. Set aside some time this month to do something with your child that you enjoyed at his age.
  - 2. Start a family library. Give your child her own shelf or bookcase.
  - 3. Play Concentration with fractions. Try to make pairs of equivalent fractions—1/2 and 2/4, 3/5 and 6/10 and so on.
  - 4. Ask your child what changes he’d make if he ran for a political office.
  - 5. Have everyone bring an interesting science fact to share at dinner.
  - 6. It’s the birthday of James Naismith, inventor of basketball. Ask your child to tell you the most interesting thing he learned today.
  - 7. Hug your child, for no reason other than that you love him.
  - 8. Let your child plan dinner tonight. Can she include all the food groups?
  - 9. Have a reading dinner. Let everyone bring a book to read. Talk about the parts of your day.
  - 10. Squash is a native American food. When you’re in the grocery store, choose a new squash for your family to try.
  - 11. Put together a puzzle with your child.
  - 12. Ask your child to imagine life 150 years ago. How about 150 years in the future?
  - 13. Make a list of all the things that make your family members thankful.
  - 14. Today is the birthday of Claude Monet, a French artist. Paint a picture with your child.
  - 15. If your child is just learning to read, look for “read-along” audio books.
  - 16. Today is International Day for Tolerance. Talk with your child about respecting the beliefs of others.
  - 17. Each week, help your child look up five new words he hears on TV.
  - 18. Encourage your child to sort her books by subject.
  - 19. Sometimes, you have to give your child a dose of Vitamin NO. It can teach him to handle setbacks.
  - 20. Have a “silent supper.” At dessert, share what you each thought about.
  - 21. Visit the library and have your child check out a book about a hobby.
  - 22. It’s National Game and Puzzle Week. Turn off the TV and play a game with your child.
  - 23. Teach your child ways to handle stress—exercising, getting enough sleep, talking about problems.
  - 24. What’s the average age of members of your family? Help your child add up ages and divide by the number of family members to find out.
  - 26. Play charades with your child. Use hand gestures to act out your word.
  - 27. Have your child write new or difficult words on index cards. Encourage her to review them regularly until she can read and spell them.
  - 28. Clean out closets with your child. Donate items you no longer need to charity—or have a family yard sale.
  - 29. When you watch TV with your child, ask questions: “Why did that person do that?” “Would you do that?”
  - 30. It’s Mark Twain’s birthday. Read one of his short stories to your child.

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