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

October 2017

1. Bake cookies with your child. Decorate them creatively.
2. Talk with your child about ways to resolve conflicts without violence.
3. Learn about special events at school. Make plans to attend at least one.
4. Have a contest: how many words can you and your child make from the letters in the word OCTOBER?
5. Today, have your child teach you something she needs to learn for homework. It’s a great way to reinforce learning.
6. Discuss a controversial issue with your child. Ask, “What do you think?”
7. Tell your child a joke today.
8. Help your child make a savings plan for a special purchase.
9. It’s Columbus Day. Challenge your child to learn something new about the explorer’s voyages.
10. Talk with your child about the character traits he has that will eventually help him in the workplace.
11. As a family, create a routine that will make mornings easier.
12. Mention how something you studied in school has helped you in life.
13. Before your middle schooler attends a party, make sure it will be supervised by an adult.
14. Brainstorm with your child about something you would both like to learn. Check out a how-to book at the library to read together.
15. Test observation skills. Can your child describe someone you and she just passed on the street? Challenge each other!
16. Urge your child to participate in school computer classes or activities.
17. How would your child handle peer pressure to drink or smoke? Role-play ways to say no.
18. When your child studies for a test, have him start reviewing at a different place in his notes every time.
19. Watch a TV show with your child. Are the characters realistic?
20. Ask your child who her role models are and why.
21. Share a photo of yourself as a middle schooler. Tell your child some stories about what that age was like for you.
22. Have your child solve silly math problems: “How many hours until your birthday?”
23. Encourage your child to get to know at least three new people outside of his normal group of friends.
24. Teach your child a card game.
25. Do something you and your child have never done before. Try a new food. Listen to a new type of music. Visit a new place.
26. Think about the rules you have for your child. Are they appropriate for her age?
27. Ask your child how he feels the school year is going so far.
28. Tell your child about your day—in as much detail as you’d like to hear about hers.
29. With your child, try to list things you each did two days ago.
30. Take a walk with your child today.
31. Ask your child, “If you could change one thing in the entire world what would it be?” Listen carefully to his answer.