

# Daily Learning Planner

*Ideas parents can use to help students do better in school.*

**Booker T. Washington High School  
Dr. Curley White**



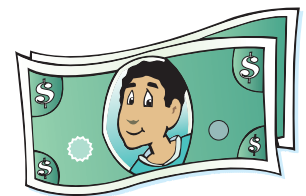
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## June 2007

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

- 1. As you drive, talk about traffic safety with your teen.
- 2. Challenge your teen to wet two mirrors and place them together. Now try to get them apart. Cohesion of water molecules is strong!
- 3. With your teen, plan a garden. Research what type of plants will thrive in your climate and choose them together.
- 4. Make a “one-a-day” rule. Family members eat one meal together every day.
- 5. Make a copy of a crossword puzzle and race your teen to see who can complete it first.
- 6. Ask your teen to tell you about the best time she has ever had with you.
- 7. Ask your teen to collect his five best writing samples. He can choose one to send into a magazine for publishing.
- 8. Encourage your teen to take a nap. Teens need eight to nine hours of sleep a night.
- 9. Laugh with your teen about a mistake you made.
- 10. Play a game of Scrabble® with your teen to build word skills.
- 11. Have your teen pick three places within driving distance she'd like to visit. Make plans to do so.
- 12. Go on a “healthy snack” shopping trip with your teen. Buy nutritious items and prepare them when you get home.
- 13. Visit a farmer's market with your teen. Enjoy some fresh fruits and vegetables.
- 14. Have your teen pick a stock. He can pretend to invest in it and follow its progress.
- 15. Ask your teen if she would rather watch an adventure on TV or live one herself.
- 16. See if your teen can shadow someone in an interesting job.
- 17. Know where your teen is going and who he's with.
- 18. Avoid compliments that really *aren't*. For example, “You'd be great if only ... .”
- 19. Work on a hobby with your teen.
- 20. Volunteer to take your child and her friends to an activity.
- 21. Talk with your teen about the good and bad aspects of stress.
- 22. Ask your teen what it means to be popular in his school.
- 23. Ask your teen, “Are there any questions you would like to ask me about?”
- 24. Challenge your teen to figure out how many miles your car gets per gallon.
- 25. When you talk with your teen, who does most of the talking? It's important to give teens chances to open up.
- 26. Visit a restaurant with your teen. Ask her to write a review.
- 27. Ask your teen what he would do if he won a million dollars.
- 28. Use your calendar to block out time for family events.
- 29. Encourage your teen to read aloud to you or a sibling.
- 30. Take your teen out to breakfast.



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# July 2007

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- 1. Listen to music with your teen. Take turns choosing the artists.
- 2. Consider giving your teen a clothing allowance.
- 3. Go to a used bookstore with your teen. For every book she buys, offer to get her another—a buy one, get one free deal.
- 4. Run through a sprinkler with your teen.
- 5. Protect your teen on the Internet. If you have a computer, put it in a busy place, with the monitor in full view.
- 6. Suggest that your teen keep a spending diary. Are there any habits he'd like to change?
- 7. Talk with your teen about your family's ethnic background.
- 8. Ask your teen to define success. Tell her how you define it.
- 9. Practice setting priorities with your teen. Make a list of things to do in a day. Do the most essential tasks first.
- 10. Tell your teen you love him.
- 11. Look through the classified ads with your teen. Which jobs look interesting to her?
- 12. Take your teen to work with you. Show your teen where you work and all the various tasks you perform.
- 13. Ask your teen to help you start a ritual. Go out for coffee or ice cream. Make it a regular tradition.
- 14. Let your teen research a major purchase. Have him compare products and prices.
- 15. Wishing for cooler weather? Ask your teen to find an indoor ice rink nearby.
- 16. Ask your teen to teach you the newest dance.
- 17. Let your teen be an archeologist. What might she say about the people in your house based on what she finds there?

- 18. Recruit your teen's help in researching your family's ancestry.
- 19. Find a map of Europe from the 1950s. Compare it to a current map. How many changes can your teen find?
- 20. Encourage your teen to talk with a college student about what life is like on campus.
- 21. Ask your teen to name his five favorite books. Read one of them.
- 22. Find a song your teen likes that is a remake of an old song. Talk about how the song has changed with the times.
- 23. With your teen, pick up trash around your neighborhood.
- 24. Learn about community events in your area. Are there any free concerts your teen might enjoy? Go to them.
- 25. Ask your teen how she would describe herself over the phone to someone she had never met.
- 26. Play your teen's favorite board game with him tonight.
- 27. If your teen has a decision to make, have her list every option. Write down the pros and cons of each one.
- 28. Suggest your teen read an article that you find interesting. Talk about it.
- 29. Think of someone your teen admires. Post a picture of that person somewhere in your home.
- 30. Talk with your teen about qualities you each look for in a friend.
- 31. Try to have a conversation with your teen all in rhyme.



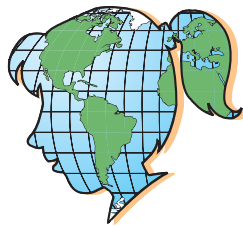
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# August 2007

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

- 1. Show your teen how to use a picnic grill.
- 2. Ask your teen if she has made any new friends lately.
- 3. Remind your teen that swearing offends many people.
- 4. Quiz family members on geography.
- 5. Ask your teen to consider starting a parent-teen book club with some of his friends and their parents.
- 6. Allow your teen to use some stencils and paint a special corner in her room.
- 7. Use new words in conversation to increase your teen's vocabulary. Curiosity may lead him to the dictionary.
- 8. Watch a travel program together.
- 9. Let your teen make a decision for the family today.
- 10. Encourage your teen to invite a friend over for dinner.
- 11. Give your teen some examples of difficult situations. How would she handle them?
- 12. The next time you eat out with your teen, ask him to calculate the tip. If it's a fast food place, have him do it for practice.
- 13. Ask your teen, "What does 'cool' mean to you?"
- 14. Play a radio station you and your teen never listen to. How do each of you feel about it?
- 15. Ask your teen to help you organize a room in the house.
- 16. Give your teen a budget for back-to-school shopping.
- 17. Go for a bike ride with your teen today.
- 18. Ask your teen to make you her favorite sandwich. Sit and eat together.



- 19. Teach your teen how to change the air filters in your home.
- 20. Ask your teen to write a letter to a favorite athlete.
- 21. Help your teen develop abbreviations to use when taking notes. For example, *w/* stands for *with*.
- 22. If your teen challenges you, try not to lose your cool. Ask for a break and talk when you're in control.
- 23. At dinner tonight, share a wish or a dream with your teen.
- 24. Take a walk with your teen.
- 25. Visit a historical museum with your child.
- 26. If your teen could meet anyone from the past, who would it be? Why?
- 27. Help your teen think about the school year ahead. What does he want to accomplish?
- 28. Encourage your teen to participate in an extracurricular activity that interests her.
- 29. Spend the afternoon reading the newspaper with your teen.
- 30. Help your child establish a "study nook" for the new year.
- 31. If your teen could do one thing differently from last school year what would it be?

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