

General Study Skills Tips

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Daily:

- All papers should have a “home” on a daily basis.
- Write each homework assignment on a sticky note, and estimate how long you think it will take. Organize the notes according to importance/priority.
- Consider color-coding by subject to keep track of notebooks, etc.
- Help students not only look at daily assignments, but the week as a whole. Using a dry-erase calendar or paper planner will be helpful for learning how to manage more “long term” assignments.
- Have some way of tracking the passage of time. Use watches with alarms, a Time Timer, or check out www.onlinestopwatch.com

Weekly:

Once a week, have a MERGE AND PURGE session. Make sure that all loose papers have the CORRECT home. Papers that are no longer needed should be removed from notebooks and placed into a storage bin for possible later reference. This clears and organizes the student’s binders on a regular basis.

Get in the habit of using some time Sunday or Monday to review the week as a whole. Not only factor in school work, but also outside activities such as sports, church, family obligations, dr. appointments, etc. This teaches the process of planning ahead, and shifting workloads.

Tests:

To “STUDY” means you should *PHYSICALLY MANIPULATE THE INFORMATION!* Very few people study well by re-reading a chapter or notes alone. The more physically involved a child is with the content, the more likely it is to “stick”.

Some ideas include:

- *Re-write note or type them out*
- *Read notes out loud*
- *Have friend or parent quiz*
- *Draw out notes on flashcards, using a symbol for the concept on one side and the information on the other. We tend to retain symbols better than words.*
- *Use You-tube, Google, etc. for ways to gain additional understanding on a topic*
- *Draw timelines to help sequence events/dates*
- *When needing to memorize a lot of details, try to put information into a song format. Music is stored in long term memory. Many topics (solar system, states and capitals, etc.) have songs on You Tube or you can Google “Songs for...”, plug in your topic, and you’ll be amazed at what you find!*

In General:

Use the information gathered about learning styles, and access those tips. Generally speaking, an auditory learner may do well with audio books or reading out loud, while a visual learner may choose to highlight and a kinesthetic learner may want to take notes or draw images to represent ideas.

Sleep Well
Eat Well
Exercise Daily