

Parent Pointers

Calendar

Middle School
Parents
still make the difference!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
December		1 Teach your child about empathy. Help her think about how others feel.	2 Suggest that your child write a descriptive story. Have her include lots of details.	3 Have each family member think of two nice things to do for others today. Later, share what you did.	4 Make sure your child has plenty of writing supplies for stories, notes and letters.	5 Make popcorn and watch a movie with your child. Afterward, talk about the movie.
6 Ask bookstores to notify you of book signings. Take your child when the book topic interests her.	7 Before your child buys something, encourage her to compare prices and return policies.	8 Give your child a test-taking tip: Answer everything you know first, then go back to difficult questions.	9 Keep nutritious foods handy at home, such as sliced vegetables and fresh fruit.	10 Use math-related terms in conversation, such as <i>parallel</i> and <i>intersect</i> .	11 Don't let your child watch TV while studying, no matter how much he wants to.	12 Peer pressure can be positive. Encourage group activities like sports and volunteering.
13 Suggest that your child write a letter to a relative, author, lawmaker or celebrity.	14 Make a weekly TV schedule with your child. This reduces wasted time in front of the set.	15 Ask your child to take photos during holiday events. This may build her interest in participating.	16 Talk with your child about her report card. Ask what went into getting each grade.	17 As your child becomes more responsible, switch from a weekly to a monthly allowance.	18 Is your child's favorite TV show on during homework time? Have him record it and watch it later.	19 Take advantage of time in the car with your child. You can talk privately without interruption.
20 Look through the classifieds with your child. Which jobs seem interesting? Why?	21 Encourage your child to read a biography, such as one about Helen Keller.	22 Talk about ways to handle negative peer pressure, such as standing up for yourself or using humor.	23 Give the gift of time to your child. Time with parents is more important to kids than material things.	24 As your daughter matures physically, remember that it's normal and healthy for her to gain weight.	25 Taking practice tests can improve grades. Encourage your child to use this study method.	26 Talk about TV ads with your child. What sales techniques do they use?
27 When arguing with your child, focus more on solutions than blame.	28 Do everyday things with your child, such as washing dishes, to gain more time together.	29 Help your child open a bank account. Explain how to keep track of withdrawals and deposits.	30 Talk about people you admire who have shown integrity. What did they do?	31 Make individual and family resolutions for the new year. How will you reach your goals?	2009	

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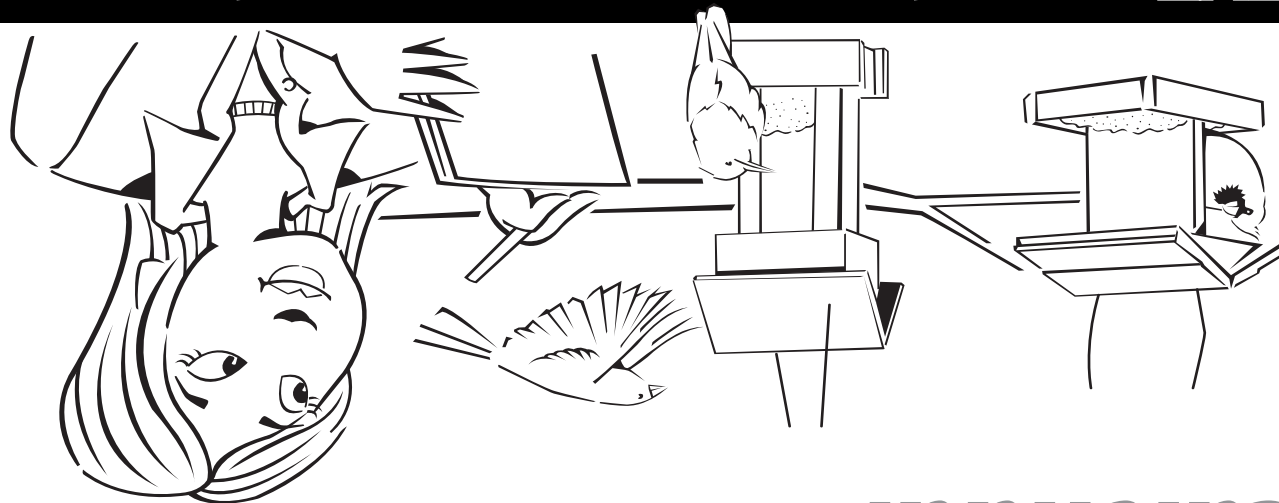
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January 2010					1 Call a relative to say "Happy new year!" Let your child have a turn on the phone.	2 Use a family calendar to keep track of schedules. Encourage everyone to check it often.
3 Tell your child about your expectations. If you expect her to succeed, she probably will.	4 Limit interruptions during your child's homework time. Snack breaks are okay, though.	5 Attendance at school is important. Let your child stay home only when it's really necessary.	6 Before leaving school, your child should double-check his backpack for needed items.	7 Discourage TV viewing by putting the TV in an inconvenient spot.	8 Notice your child's interests and encourage her to find books on these topics.	9 Give your child a "do-it-yourself" gift. For example, a model plane or book of kids' recipes.
10 Teach your child, "If you fail to plan, you plan to fail." Planning ahead is a key to success.	11 Your child can alphabetize hard-to-spell words in an address book, then look them up when needed.	12 Next time your child dawdles, start a race. Say, "Try to finish by the time I count to 30."	13 If your family can't eat dinner together every day, try meeting for breakfast.	14 Before your child gives a speech, teach her to make eye contact with listeners.	15 Encourage your child to break large tasks into small parts. This makes projects easier to finish.	16 It's helpful to know your child's friends. Make your home "kid-friendly," so kids will hang out there.
17 Practice your child's favorite sport with her. Playing sports can improve kids' self-esteem.	18 Teach your child to ask <i>who?</i> , <i>what?</i> , <i>when?</i> , <i>where?</i> , <i>why?</i> and <i>how?</i> when doing research.	19 Record the end of a TV program. Guess with your child what will happen before you watch it.	20 Redoing kids' chores can hurt their self-esteem. Instead, give tips for improvement.	21 Choose a special place for displaying your child's work.	22 Ask your child if she'd like a pen pal. Your librarian can help her find one.	23 When studying history, acting out past events can bring lessons alive.
24 Spend time with your child.	25 Encourage your child when she faces challenges. Say, "Go for it!" or, "You can do it!"	26 Limit drinks with caffeine at night. They can deprive your child of needed sleep.	27 Ask your child, "What assignments do you have today?"	28 Cut out a magazine or newspaper article your child might enjoy. Share it with her.	29 Point out an example of prejudice. Talk about ways to deal with intolerance.	30 Review what your child should do in an emergency, such as a fire.
31 Take your child to a museum.						

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Calendar

Chambersburg Area School District

Parent Pointers

Middle School

Parent Pointers

Calendar

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Does your child dawdle during homework time? Have him set a timer while working.	2 Have your child spend 10 minutes at night getting ready for the next day. Mornings will be calmer.	3 Teachers say a child's room is a bad place for a TV.	4 Give your child chances to write. Have him make a grocery list or take a message, for example.	5 If you and your child hear a word you don't recognize, look it up in the dictionary.	6 Buy a calendar for your child. She can use it to keep track of homework, holidays, chores, etc.
7 Look at pictures in magazines or newspapers with your child. Guess what the captions say.	8 Start having weekly family meetings. Talk about family news, goals and successes.	9 Help your child see the good in others. Focus more on people's strengths than their weaknesses.	10 Tell your child a family story. Try to think of one that teaches a lesson.	11 Some middleers are embarrassed by affection in public. But they still like hugs at home!	12 Help your child organize something, such as her room, backpack or schedule.	13 Decorate part of your home with a map. Refer to it when talking about states or countries.
14 Write a note to your child that says how much you love her.	15 Listening to Mozart softly can help with studying. Ask your child if she'd like to try it.	16 Share an interesting fact with your child. For example, the moon takes 27.322 days to orbit the Earth.	17 When your child tells you something important, repeat it to make sure you understood.	18 Try a new recipe with your child. This helps her practice following directions.	19 When your child loses items, have her pay to replace them. She'll learn to be more careful.	20 Is your child trying to make friends? Teach her conversation starters, such as, "I like your ..."
21 Play a game that builds math skills, such as cards, dominoes or chess.	22 Link responsibilities to freedom. As your child becomes more responsible, he'll have more freedom.	23 Monitor your child's academic progress. Talk about school and get to know his teachers.	24 Would your child like to play a musical instrument? Encourage her interest.	25 Spend a few minutes talking with your child at bedtime. This is a relaxing time for conversation.	26 Buy your child an alarm clock. Make getting up each morning her responsibility.	27 Encourage healthy eating. Allow your child to choose any fruit or vegetable at the grocery store.
28 Let your child overhear you say something good about him to someone else.	<h2>February 2010</h2>					