

Home & School

CONNECTION®

Working Together for School Success

Philipsburg Osceola Area School District
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SHORT NOTES

Schedule at a glance

Keeping track of a busy family's activities can seem impossible. Try using an index card for each day of the week. Write family members' names across the top, and list their daily tasks below. *Example:* Monday—Bobby: water plants, scout meeting (wear uniform).

Listen up!

Having trouble getting your child's attention? Here's an idea teachers often use in the classroom. Instead of yelling, talk softly or even whisper. Chances are, your youngster will quiet down to hear what you're saying.

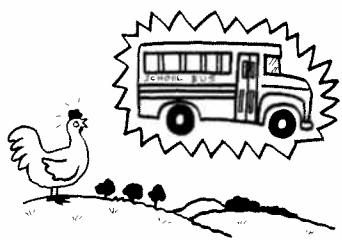
Where in the world?

Instead of throwing away opened mail, save it for geography practice. Give your child an envelope and ask her to look at the postmark. Can she locate the city on a map or tell you two facts about the state?

Worth quoting

"Explore. Dream. Discover."
Mark Twain

JUST FOR FUN



Q: What's big and yellow and comes in the morning to brighten a parent's day?

A: The school bus!

Ready to learn

Setting up routines

Bruce and John are close friends with similar abilities. Bruce does well in school, but John struggles. He often seems tired and misses assignments.

Why the difference? One reason is that Bruce's family establishes daily routines to help him do his best. Consider the routines below to make your child feel more...

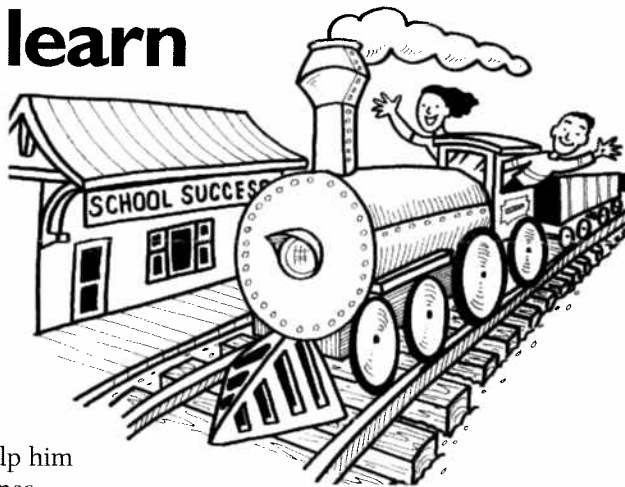
Relaxed. Music can help your child avoid the morning rush. Play a soothing tape and ask her to be dressed and ready by the time it's over. *Tip:* On Sundays, have her put each day's outfit for the coming week on hangers labeled Monday through Friday.

Energized. A good breakfast increases concentration. Offer your youngster healthy choices. *Examples:* a whole-wheat bagel with peanut butter; orange juice blended with fruit and yogurt; instant oatmeal.

Connected. Talking about the school day lets your child know you care. Ask him to share two good things that happened during the day. Also ask specific questions, such as "Which multiplication tables did you practice?"

Prepared. Studying a little every day is the best way to learn new material. Help your youngster choose a time for homework when she is most alert—and try not to change it.

Rested. A set bedtime helps kids fall asleep more quickly. Suggest your child get in bed 15 minutes early to read, make up stories, or talk quietly with you. ♥



A place for homework

Working in the same spot is important for an effective study routine. Help your child pick a place that offers the features below:



- The right furniture can make a big difference. When your youngster sits in a chair, her feet should touch the floor. When she writes at a table, her shoulders should be relaxed.
- Without enough light, your child can strain his eyes. Experiment with windows, lamps, and overhead lights until he finds the right combination.
- Distractions cause a lack of focus. Look for an area away from the TV, the phone, and family traffic. ♥