

LINCOLN PK-8 NEWSLETTER



Parent/Teacher Conferences—Nov. 13 & 15

Parent partnerships are SO important for our students and their continued growth at school. We would love to see every one of our families at our conference nights to discuss the many wonderful things your child is learning and doing at school, as well as ways you might help at home. Forms have been sent home with your child to schedule parent/teacher conferences. Please complete the form and return it as quickly as possible. Come hear about the amazing things going on at Lincoln!

Our attendance goal is 95%. Please help us and your child by having them at school on time every day!!



Veterans Day—November 11

Please **REMEMBER OUR VETERANS!**

We thank them for their service.



Morning Safety

It is very important that parents do not send children to school prior to breakfast time because this is not a supervised part of the day. Students are permitted to enter the building at **8:00 am. In the rear of the building.**

We appreciate your assistance in this matter, for the safety of all our children.

Waiver Day

On Tuesday, November 6th, WCS educators will be participating in Trumbull County's largest professional learning opportunity for public school educators and administrators. Innovative Day, sponsored by the Trumbull County Educational Service Center, will be held at Warren G. Harding High School.

NO SCHOOL- Waiver Day

Tuesday, November 6, 2018

(Also Election Day)



EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

At Lincoln PK-8 School, one of our top priorities is keeping your child safe. In the event of an emergency situation, your child will be kept with our staff until that situation is resolved. We understand that you are concerned about your child, and that these situations are frightening, but we ask for your cooperation so that we can utilize our resources to care for your children. We will do our best in these situations to stay in contact with families through automated phone calls. If you are not receiving our automated phone calls, please make sure we have your correct phone number on file. If you have any questions about our procedures, please call one of our school administrators.

Lincoln Rock Stars are W.A.R.R.E.N. Strong!

Work Ethic
Accountability
Respect
Responsibility
Effective Behaviors
No Excuses

November K-5 SEL Focus:

*Being Good Listeners

(further information available in the Academic Updates on our webpage)



LINCOLN PK-8

MRS. PYTLIK	PK-2 PRINCIPAL
MRS. BURNS	3-5 PRINCIPAL
MR. DESANTIS	6-8 PRINCIPAL
MRS. LATESSA	SPECIAL EDUCATION
MRS. MARINO	SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

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Counselor's Corner- November 2018

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GIVE
Thanks
with a
GRATEFUL
heart

November 16th is **NATIONAL FAST FOOD DAY!** ... On this day each year, people all across the country celebrate by going through the drive-thru, dining inside or ordering their fast food to go. Make it a family event!

What's happening in the classrooms?

🍌 **LAST MONTH**

- 5th Grade students talked about Feelings and Managing their emotions...Ask your child about their classroom Regulation Stations!

🍌 **THIS MONTH....**

- 5th Grade students **we will be learning ways to be a better listener and resolve conflicts peacefully!**
- 6-8 Students are working on Values & Friendships, and learning ways to make responsible decisions based on their values to help build strong relationships and avoid negative relationships.

🍌 **THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOL YEAR....**

- 6-8 students are continuing work in the Naviance Curriculum to prepare them for college and career readiness!
- 5TH -8TH Grades will receive lessons on drug education through our partnership with COMPASS.
- 7th & 8th Grade Health classes will receive lessons on Healthy Relationships, Dating Violence Prevention, and Human Trafficking.

Staying connected with our Kids:

Your preteen may act as if your guidance isn't welcome or needed, and even seem embarrassed by you at times. This is when kids start to confide more in peers and request their space and privacy — expect the bedroom door to be shut more often.

Below are some ways to stay connected-

Shift your communication style: Your preteen's newfound independence will probably lead to some important changes in communication. While a young child might appreciate you solving a problem with his friend by calling their mother, a preteen will find this solution hard to swallow. For many preteens, the point of discussing a life challenge with a parent is no longer about parent problem-solving; it's about listening and support. You might feel the urge to solve every problem your preteen mentions (or call their teachers or friends to deal with it directly), but for small problems, remember that they might be looking for a place to vent and the support to figure it out on their own. When you hear about a problem that doesn't need an adult solution, try saying something like, "That sounds really tough. I can see why it would make you angry. I'm here for you if you need anything or want to talk about it a little more." If they want help, they'll ask you for it. Supporting, listening, and empathy will help them feel empowered to find solutions on their own.



Create special time: Make a tradition out of celebrating family milestones beyond birthdays and holidays. Marking smaller occasions like a good report card or a winning soccer game helps reinforce family bonds.



Stay involved: Stay involved in your preteen's expanding pursuits. Getting involved gives you more time together and shared experiences. You don't have to be the Scout leader, homeroom mom, or soccer coach to be involved. Go to games and practices when you can; when you can't, ask how things went and listen attentively. Help kids talk through the disappointments. Your attitude about setbacks will teach your preteen to accept and feel OK about them, and to summon the courage to try again.

I'M HERE FOR YOU..
ALWAYS...



Manage electronic devices: As kids get older, they're more likely to have (and increasingly use) their own tablets, laptops, or phones. While some electronics use is a helpful way for preteens to stay connected with their friends, excessive or unrestricted use can lead to challenges and reduce the quality and frequency of family time. Set limits consistent with your values while allowing freedom within those limits. For example, don't spy on social media and text conversations unless it's necessary for your child's safety and well-being. Apps, programs, and modems (like Circle with Disney) can help you enforce boundaries. Finally, make sure that you model healthy electronics use.



Stay interested: Stay interested and curious about your preteen's ideas, feelings, and experiences. If you listen to what he or she is saying, you'll get a better sense of the guidance, perspective, and support needed. And responding in a nonjudgmental way means your child will be more likely to come to you anytime tough issues arise.

How was your day today?

1. Happy 😊
2. Sad 😞
3. Angry 😡
4. Bored 😴
5. I don't know 🤷

Share ordinary time: Find little things that let you just hang out together. Even riding in the car is an opportunity to connect. When you're driving, your preteen may be more inclined to mention a troubling issue. Since you're focused on the road, he or she doesn't have to make eye contact, which can ease any discomfort about opening up.



Counselor's Corner-November 2018

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[Mrs. Jodi Austin-Brown_jodi.a.brown@neomin.org](mailto:Mrs.Jodi.Austin-Brown_jodi.a.brown@neomin.org)



November 13th is World Kindness Day! It was founded in 1998 by an organization called the World Kindness Movement. This international special day encourages everyone to look deep into their hearts past religion, politics, race, and other differences to do something nice for their neighbors and/or humankind.

Kindness is perhaps the most essential quality of being fully human.

--Jonathan Lockwood Huie

What is Happening in the Classrooms:

We are conducting surveys in the classrooms to learn how students feel about school, home, and themselves.



The "3 F's" of Effective Parenting

Discipline should be:

Firm: Consequences should be clearly stated and then adhered to when the appropriate behavior occurs.

Fair: The punishment should fit the crime. Also in the case of recurring behavior, consequences should be stated in advance so the child knows what to expect. Harsh punishment is not necessary.







Friendly: Use a friendly but firm communication style when letting children know they have behaved inappropriately. Let them know they will receive the "agreed upon consequence". Encourage them to try to remember what they should do instead to avoid future consequences.. Work at "catching them being good" and praise them for appropriate behavior.

--Child Development Institute



November 2018



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 <i>Daylight Savings Time Turn clocks back</i>	5	6 <i>Waiver Day No School</i>	7	8 <i>STEAM Program 2nd Grade Family Day 9:00 café'</i>	9	10
11  <i>Veterans Day</i>	12	13 <i>STEAM Program Conferences 4-7 PM</i> 	14	15 <i>Conferences 4-7 PM</i> 	16	17
18	19 <i>No School</i>	20 <i>No School</i>	21 <i>No School</i>	22 <i>Happy</i>  <i>Thanksgiving</i>	23 <i>No School</i>	24
25	26 <i>Return to school</i>	27 <i>STEAM Program BOE Mtg</i>	28	29 <i>PK Tom Phoolery Visit</i>	30 <i>Grade 1 Field Trip to Packard Concert Mother /Son</i> 	

Helping Children Learn[®]

Tips Families Can Use to Help Children Do Better in School



December 2018

Warren City Schools

<http://www.warrenschools.k12.oh.us>

Don't let your child miss out on the advantages of attendance

December is a busy month for schools, students and families. There's a lot to fit in before winter break arrives. And with so many festive activities going on, you may even be planning to take your child out of school for an extra day or two.



But absences can matter a lot. As early as kindergarten, absenteeism is linked to lower academic achievement. Even if your child can make up the homework assignments, he'll still miss learning that *can't* be made up, such as:

- **Class discussions.** The conversation about the book everyone is reading can't be captured by doing homework.
- **Science demonstrations.** Doing a worksheet or reading a textbook is not the same as seeing science in action.
- **Group projects.** Interaction with peers is a key part of the lesson.
- **Math explanations.** Math builds on previous lessons. Missing any of those lessons may leave your child confused going forward.

Avoid unnecessary absences and help your child establish positive attendance habits. He'll reap the benefits throughout his school years.

Source: A. Ginsburg and others, "Absences Add Up: How School Attendance Influences Student Success," Attendance Works, niswc.com/nomiss.



Study skills at home pay off in school

As students reach the upper elementary grades, their study skills become more important to their academic success. Encourage your child to:

- **Use time wisely.** Show your child how to use short periods of time productively. She could flip through flash cards on the way to an activity, or solve a few math problems on the bus ride home.
- **Get organized.** Help her use a planner to keep track of her assignments. Have her clean out her backpack once a week and file returned papers with her other schoolwork for that subject.
- **Take notes.** Your child may not practice this skill at school yet, but she can try it at home when she reads. Help her write down key words and facts. Then she can summarize the main points.
- **Think ahead.** Have your child make a to-do list for her study time before a test: Take notes, review, do practice problems. Show her how to make a study schedule, and help her stick to it.

Hunt for fun at the library

To have some reading fun with your child, go on a library scavenger hunt. Make up a list of facts to find—the world record number of hot dogs eaten in a contest, the average temperature at the South Pole, the country with the largest zebra population—then help your child use the library's reference tools to find them. Offer a small reward for finding them all.

Steer your child's character

Your child's teachers will guide her academic growth. But you are in the best position to teach her the values that will help her learn. To provide a moral compass:



1. **Discuss the values** that are important to your family—honesty, responsibility, consideration, etc.
2. **Be a role model.** Ask, "What lessons is my child learning from my behavior?"
3. **Set high standards.** Expect your child to tell the truth, live up to commitments and cooperate with others.

Celebrate to motivate

Reaching a challenging goal feels wonderful, and that feeling can be a powerful motivator for your child to tackle other challenges. So when he sets and reaches a major goal, help him celebrate it!

One fun way is to "frame the occasion." Get a snapshot of your child holding that improved report card. Or have him draw a picture of himself and his accomplishment. Put the picture in a frame by his bed. Every time he wakes up, he'll see an image of himself as an achiever.



Source: M. Borba, Ed.D., "Helping Kids Be Goal-Setters," Micheleborba.com, niswc.com/celebrate.



My child has become a 'mean girl.' What can I do?

Q: My fifth-grader was picked on by a group of girls last year. She was miserable. So I was horrified when her teacher told me that my daughter is now part of a group who is being mean to another girl. What should I do to stop this behavior?

A: It can be just as painful to watch your child being mean as it is to watch her be a victim. While your situation is not uncommon, particularly with girls at this age, it's important to take action.

Here are some things to do:

- **Talk with your child.** Say you understand that she's happy to be part of a group again. But be clear that just as it was wrong for the other girls to be mean to her last year, it is wrong for her to do it now. She knows how it feels to be teased—she should take a stand against such behavior.
- **Review the school's policy on bullying** with your child. She may face consequences if her mean behavior continues. Bullying does not only refer to physical violence—mean words and exclusion count as well.
- **Let the teacher know** what you are doing at home. Ask what the classroom rules are about this type of behavior. Work together to get your child's focus back on learning—and away from being mean to others.



Are you encouraging reading fluency?

Reading with *fluency* means reading aloud quickly, smoothly and with expression. Fluency helps students understand what they read. Are you helping your child improve his reading fluency? Answer *yes* or *no* below:

- ___ **1. Do you ask** your child to read to you regularly?
- ___ **2. Do you let** your child choose what to read aloud, even if you think his choice is too easy?
- ___ **3. Do you avoid** interrupting when your child reads a word incorrectly?
- ___ **4. Do you offer** help if your child asks what a word is, and then encourage him to keep reading?
- ___ **5. Do you discuss** the reading with your child?

How well are you doing?

More yes answers mean you are helping your child build reading fluency. For each no, try that idea.

"So it is with children who learn to read fluently and well: They begin to take flight into whole new worlds as effortlessly as young birds take to the sky."

—William James

Home can be a science lab

Turn your child on to the science happening all around her in your home. To help her investigate:

- **Give her a magnifying glass.** Ask what she sees. What's similar and what's different?
- **Ask questions** and help her look for answers: Which cereals get soggy? Why do foods get moldy? Why do some plants need more water than others?
- **Experiment.** Which weighs more, a cup of water or a cup of snow? Why? What if the snow melts?



Don't give your child a reason to cheat

Some children cheat in school because they are afraid of what their parents will do if they come home with a bad grade. Make sure your child knows that a low grade would never affect your love for him. Tell him you would be concerned, but you would not be angry. Remind him that learning is a process, and he will get better at it.

Successful students do more than the minimum

When your child is doing homework or studying, encourage her to ask herself what more she could do. For example, she could:

- **Reread the chapter** if she doesn't understand it the first time.
- **Take time to write** out her report neatly, instead of turning in sloppy work.
- **Start on projects early**, rather than waiting until the last minute. Then she'll have time to add an illustration or practice her presentation before delivering it.

Helping Children Learn®

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Daily Learning Planner

*Ideas parents can use to help children
do well in school*

Warren City Schools

<http://www.warrenschoools.k12.oh.us>



THE
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December 2018

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

- 1. Share the responsibility for holiday preparations. As kids help, they appreciate holidays even more.
- 2. Set aside time today to work on a craft project with your child. Handmade items make great gifts!
- 3. Give your child a magnet. Have her use it to find out which things in your house contain iron.
- 4. Talk with your child about a choice you made and its consequences.
- 5. Put on some music and have your child spend 15 minutes drawing how it makes him feel.
- 6. Ask your child, "If you could have any animal as a pet, which would it be? Why?"
- 7. Make a jigsaw puzzle together. Glue a picture from a magazine onto cardboard. Cut it into puzzle pieces.
- 8. Help your child research what happened on the day she was born.
- 9. At the grocery store, ask your child to estimate the weights of different vegetables and fruits. Then weigh them.
- 10. Give your child a plant to care for. Put him in charge of watering it.
- 11. Hold a family meeting. Decide on some goals as a family.
- 12. Post a new vocabulary word and its definition on the bathroom mirror. Change it every three or four days.
- 13. Talk with your child about times when it's important to say *no*, even to an adult.
- 14. Look at a weather map. What is the coldest place in the nation today? The warmest? Have your child calculate the difference in temperature.
- 15. Exercise as a family. Choose an activity everyone will enjoy.
- 16. Have a family sing-along. Ask everyone to share their favorite songs.
- 17. Make a "clock" by using a fastener to attach two strips of paper to a paper plate. Help your child practice telling time.
- 18. Have your child track the amount of time she spends reading this week. Help her figure out the average time she spent reading per day.
- 19. Talk with your child about how animals survive the winter months.
- 20. Recreate a favorite tradition from your youth. Share it with your child.
- 21. Have your child make a list of things he can do when he's bored.
- 22. Bake cookies with your child. Have her do the math to find out the amounts of ingredients you'd need if you doubled the recipe.
- 23. Share a favorite quote with your child.
- 24. Talk with your child about *courage*. Point out examples of people who demonstrate courage.
- 25. Ask your child to tell you a bedtime story tonight.
- 26. Take a walk with your child. Look for things you see only in winter.
- 27. Help your child think of something nice he can do for a neighbor.
- 28. Ask your child about the best gift she ever got. What made it special?
- 29. Remove the headline of a news article. Have your child read the article and write a headline. Compare the two headlines.
- 30. Tell your child you love him today and every day.
- 31. Help your child create a time line of the last year.

Helping Children Learn
TIPS FAMILIES CAN USE TO HELP CHILDREN DO BETTER IN SCHOOL

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Helping Students Learn[®]

Tips Families Can Use to Help Students Do Better in School



December 2018

Warren City Schools

<http://www.warrenschools.k12.oh.us>

Encourage estimating to give your child real-world math practice

Making a connection to real world uses for subjects your child is studying can stimulate her interest in them. Estimation, for example, is a math skill that most adults use on a regular basis. And it is often the first step to finding a precise answer to a mathematical problem.



Offer your child frequent estimation challenges using ideas from daily life. Then encourage her to check her answers by working the problems through, or by comparing a "real life" answer to her estimate.

Here are some examples to get you started:

- **How many times** will she have to shovel snow off the neighbor's driveway to earn \$1,000 if she gets paid \$18 every time?
- **How long does she think it will take** her to finish the book she's reading if she reads about 10 pages an hour?
- **How many chocolate chips** does she think fit in a quarter cup?
- **How long will it take** to get to Grandma's house if the car is going 27 miles an hour and Grandma lives 5 miles away?
- **How many shoebox-sized packages** can she wrap with one roll of wrapping paper?

Source: B. Hoffman, M.S.Ed, "Why Teaching Both Estimation and Accuracy is Important," My Learning Springboard, niswc.com/estimate.



How to listen to your middle schooler

Open communication between parents and children can be a challenge. For many parents, talking with their adolescent seems like talking to the wall. But often, it's because the parents are talking more than listening.

To improve communication with your middle schooler:

- **Create times** when your child can have a chance to say what he wants. Time in the car is ideal. Be quiet and give him an opportunity to break the silence.
- **Let him finish.** Don't assume you know what your child was going to say. Allow him time to pause and think.
- **Don't hijack** the conversation. Your child begins talking about the new kid in school. You jump in to say that you met his parents and they Your child may have been about to share something with you. But now, he may not.
- **Don't always delay.** You may be busy when your child wants to talk. But if you always put him off, he may save his news forever.

Parenting instills respect

Your child needs you to be her parent, not her friend. Friends have equal power in a relationship; parents and children do not. Be firm and consistent when dealing with your child. Treat her fairly and you'll demonstrate respect. Be reliable and set a good example, and you'll earn it.

Keep attendance strong

How was your child's attendance this fall? Was he in school every day? Did he make it to every class?

If so, congratulate him and help him keep up the good work. If not:

- **Emphasize** that attending every class every day is your child's top priority.
- **Make sure** he gets the rest, nutrition and exercise he needs to stay healthy, alert and in school.
- **Establish** consequences for missing school. Now he'll have to miss activities he likes and use the time to study material he missed.



Get set for group study

Working in groups can teach students to collaborate and reinforce learning. When your child sets up a study group, help him:

- **Choose participants carefully.** They should all want to do well in school and be comfortable with one another. Students should take turns leading so one member doesn't dominate the group.
- **Be clear about the purpose.** Structure and routines make study groups productive.

Source: K. Eckart, "Group project? Taking turns, working with friends may improve grades," Science Daily, niswc.com/group.





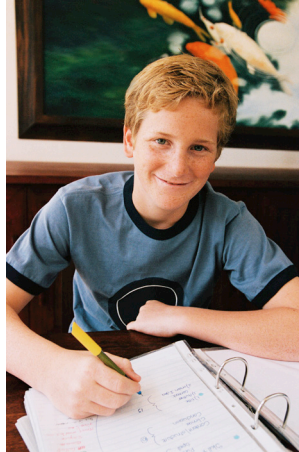
How can I help my child handle a bigger workload?

Q: Now that my son is in middle school, he has a lot more homework. He seems a bit intimidated. How can I keep him from being overwhelmed?

A: Keeping up with the demands of six or seven classes can make even confident students worry sometimes. The key is to help your child see his assignments as a series of small, manageable tasks, rather than as one giant workload.

To help him break things down:

- **Give your child a calendar.** He should note when assignments are due. Have him block out times, such as school hours and sports practices, when he won't be able to do homework. Now he can see the tasks he has to do, and the time available in which to do them. That puts your child in control.
- **Divide up big assignments.** If he has a research project to do, explain that he should do it in steps: Choose a topic, gather research materials, write an outline, etc. Have him set a deadline for completing each step. Then encourage him to make daily to-do lists.
- **Regroup each week.** Every Friday, review assignments with your child. What has he completed? What's on for next week? Is his calendar up to date? The last week of the month, have him flip the calendar page to see what's coming up. Then compliment him on his organizational skills!



Are you unlocking your child's potential?

What does it mean to be a success in school? Successful students work to the best of their abilities to reach their own potential. Are you encouraging your child to be all she can be? Answer *yes* or *no* to the questions below:

- ___ **1. Do you compliment** your child's positive study habits?
"Your binder is so organized—I'm impressed."
- ___ **2. Do you point out** how much your child has learned?
"You knew no Spanish in September, and you can say whole sentences now!"
- ___ **3. Do you model** a strong work ethic?
"I'm going to edit my report; I can make it better."
- ___ **4. Do you help** your child focus on what she can learn from the mistakes she makes?

- ___ **5. Do you tell** your child that all you ask is that she *do* her best, not that she *be* the best?

How well are you doing?

More *yes* answers mean you are helping your child *do her best*. For each *no*, try that *idea*.

"With realization of one's own potential and self-confidence in one's ability, one can build a better world."

—Dalai Lama XIV

Honesty matters in school

Honesty is a defining characteristic of good students—and good citizens. Stress to your child that cheating is wrong, and it won't help him learn or get smarter. Remind him that honest people:

- **Have self-respect.** They don't have to worry about being caught in a lie.
- **Are respected by others,** who know they can count on them.
- **Earn more freedom.** Parents—and teachers—give more freedom to students they can trust.

Energize your child's efforts

Does your child have an early case of the winter blahs? To recharge her motivation:

- **Praise and encourage.** Say three positive things to your child for every one correction. "You've turned in your homework on time all month. I bet that feels great!"
- **Offer specific suggestions** to make her efforts more effective. "Taking notes while you read will help the material stick in your mind."



Neglect is more than an honest mistake

When your child makes an honest mistake—in school or at home—the best response is to help him think of ways to avoid making it again. But if he neglects his responsibilities and doesn't do work he is expected to do:

- 1. Talk to your child** about where he fell short and why.
- 2. Remind him** that his contributions as a student and a family member count.
- 3. Impose a consequence** that relates to the responsibility he neglected.

Source: K. Thomsen, M.S., *Parenting Preteens with a Purpose: Navigating the Middle Years*, Search Institute Press.

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- 1. Bake cookies with your child. Let her decorate them creatively.
- 2. Is your family celebrating a holiday this month? Ask your child to take over responsibility for one or two holiday traditions.
- 3. Ask your child about a book he is reading. Are the characters realistic?
- 4. Look in the newspaper or online for a list of upcoming festive events. Plan to attend one as a family.
- 5. Check on your child's goals for the school year. Is she making progress?
- 6. What is the coldest place in the nation today? The hottest? Have your child calculate the difference between the two temperatures.
- 7. Encourage your child to eat a healthy breakfast every day.
- 8. Play a game with your child—cards, charades, a board game—whatever he'd like.
- 9. Suggest that your child donate some of her time over winter break. Look for volunteering activities you can do together.
- 10. Books are great gifts for kids. Ask your librarian to recommend some.
- 11. Meet the parents of your child's friends. Work as a team to keep your kids safe.
- 12. When helping your child with schoolwork, be positive, even if he gets discouraged.
- 13. Do something the "old-fashioned" way with your child.
- 14. Play Alphabet Mix-Up. Choose a word, then rearrange the letters in alphabetical order. Can your child figure out the word?
- 15. Have your child estimate how long an assignment will take. Write her estimate down. Then have her time how long it really takes.
- 16. Ask your child to teach you something he's learning in school. Let him explain it (even if you already know the material). Ask questions.
- 17. Discuss the importance of regular school attendance with your child.
- 18. Talk to your child about people she admires. What does she like about them?
- 19. Give your child stress-relief tips, such as taking deep breaths.
- 20. Ask your child to take photos during family events. This may increase his interest in participating.
- 21. Learn a magic trick with your child.
- 22. Have your child interview older relatives about their childhood days.
- 23. Ask your child what she feels is the most important thing she has learned at school so far this year.
- 24. Encourage your child to make lists to help him remember things.
- 25. Give your child a hug today.
- 26. Expect your child to write thank-you notes for gifts. It's polite and it builds writing skills.
- 27. Take turns calling out names of famous people and guessing what the people named did. Then look it up.
- 28. Let your child overhear you say something good about her.
- 29. Offer to drive your child and his friends somewhere. In the car, listen.
- 30. Suggest that your child play archeologist. What could she say about the people in your home, based on what she finds there?
- 31. Help your child create a time line of the past year.

Helping Students Learn
MIDDLE SCHOOL
Tips Families Can Use to Help Students Do Better in School