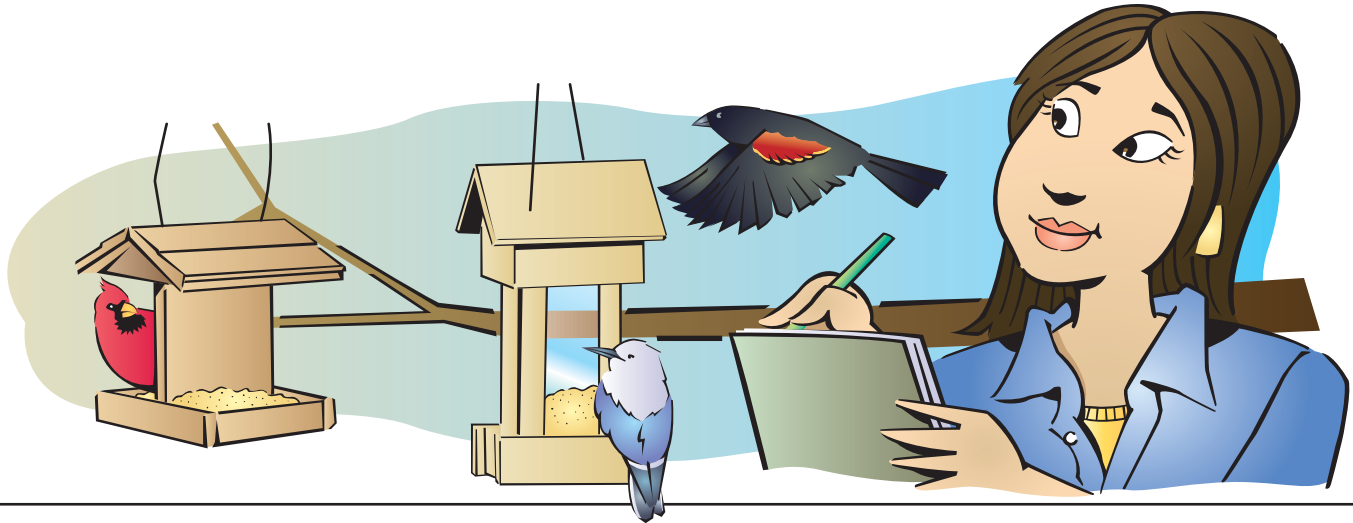


Parent Pointers

Calendar

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THE PARENT INSTITUTE®

Parent Pointers

Calendar

Middle School
Parents
still make the difference!

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 middle schoolers 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.	<h1>February 2010</h1>					