

# 3 Tips for Helping Students Stay Ahead and Organized

## For Parents of Younger Children

### 1. Build Confidence

Missing a day? Help your child practice asking for help from their teachers to stay on track!

“I know I’m going to be out of school on [school day(s)]. Could you help me gather what I’ll be missing so that I can turn it in when I return?”

“[Teacher], I was sick last week and missed school on Thursday and Friday. Can you show me what I need to do to make up the work I missed?”



### 2. Encourage Time Management

Start with small blocks of time to focus on a specific task, then add minutes to your block.

1. Start with 5 minutes: “While I cook dinner, you work on your homework for 5 minutes and see how much you get done. When the timer goes off, we’ll take a brain break and stretch!”
2. Add more time: “Let’s set a timer for 15 minutes. When the timer is up, you get a five minute break to play.”
3. Work up to 25 minutes of focused work time over the school year!

### 3. Focus On Learning and Growth Over Grades

Review graded work that comes home and notice what your child missed. Give them kudos when they can explain what they messed up and get the work right the next time.

*Celebrate when your child’s grades improve (even when they aren’t all As).*

Help your child embrace a growth mindset with positive self-talk with the word YET: “I’m not good at this.” → “I’m not good at this **yet**”

“I don’t understand, this is too hard.”  
→ I don’t understand this **yet**, but I can do hard things.”

Read the full article at  
<https://possip.com/tips-for-helping-students-stay-ahead-and-organized/>



# 4 Tips for Helping Students Stay Ahead and Organized

## For Parents of Young Adults

### 1. Model Calendar Strategies

Show students how to transfer their homework assignments, projects, quizzes, and tests to a calendar.



Then work backward to see how many days they have. Break up studying or projects to smaller tasks they can knock out over time.

### 2. Role Play Self-Advocacy

Missing a day? Help your child practice asking for help from their teachers to stay on track!



Ask them to practice these conversation starters with you:



“[Teacher], I know I’m going to miss your class on [Wednesday]. Could you help me gather what I’ll be missing so that I can turn it in when I return?”



“I missed Thursday and Friday last week. What can I do to make sure I get caught up and stay on track with the rest of the class?”

### 3. Try an “Ideal Schedule” Day

On a Saturday or Sunday, have your child write out their ideal schedule.

Include how long they will spend on each task (exercise, meals, homework/ studying, seeing friends, TV, etc).



Let them try to follow the schedule they created. At the end of the day talk through what worked and what didn’t.

### 4. Use the “Athlete’s Checklist”



Getting off track? Ask teachers to join your team to support your child with a “No pass, no play” chart.

Student: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Week of: \_\_\_\_\_

Period	Class (Student Complete)	Passing? (Teacher Initial)	Teacher Comments (Optional)
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			

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