

Get Organized!

We're half way through the school year. Is your child struggling with managing school materials and assignments? Try these tips that have worked for other students.

1. **Color Code** - Dyslexic individuals are often visual learners. Help your child color coordinate book covers, binders, and notebooks.
2. **Try a homework folder** - A pocket portfolio (laminated if possible) labeled on one side "To Do" and on the other "To Hand In" works well. Establish a routine where homework is placed in the folder as soon as it's finished.
3. **Make a checklist**. Be sure the homework folder and other important materials make it to school. Keep a checklist by the backpack with a list of all the materials and supplies your child needs regularly. Items to add to the list are all texts, notebooks, projects and project supplies. Also include gym clothes, lunch, lunch money and anything else your child needs. Help your child develop the habit of checking items off on the checklist as he places it in the backpack. Make it a rule that homework isn't complete until the checklist has been completed every day.
4. **Keep a calendar** – A large calendar with plenty of space to mark upcoming quizzes, tests and project due dates can make a big difference. Days when lunch has been purchased or special events will occur are also noted here. Encourage your child to use sketches or codes, or color coding so she can see what's happening at a glance.
5. **Break Work Down** -Help your child set up a system to break down large assignments or studying for tests into more manageable segments. Then put the interim "due" dates on the calendar.