

APPLETON VILLAGE SCHOOL

Wildcat News



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For Your Calendar

May 2 Maine Through the Year Assessment, Middle School

May 4 Maine Through the Year Assessment, Middle School

May 9 Maine Through the Year Assessment, Grades 3-4

May 11 Maine Through the Year Assessment, Grades 3-5

May 12 Grades 3 and 8 to Belfast for the Salmon Release

May 15 Authors Day – PreK, 1 and 2

May 17 Artwalk/Concert 5:30pm

June 22 Last day of school, 11:30 dismissal

SOFTBALL/BASEBALL SCHEDULE IS POSTED ON PAGE 9.

Wanted: Incoming Kindergarten and Pre-K Students for This Fall

If you have a child who will be **five years old** on or before October 15, 2023, they are eligible to join our **Kindergarten class**. If you have a child who will be **four years old** on or before October 15, 2023, they are eligible to join our **Pre-K class**. Please note, the Pre-K class is limited in size. To guarantee a spot, register now!

Please contact the school at 785-4504 to place your child's name on our lists. We need full name, date of birth, parent names, address, contact info, and any special concerns – health or otherwise. Reserve your spot.

Registration will take place in the spring. Thank you for helping spread the word throughout Appleton.

Nurses Notes

Spring is finally here and so are ticks. My practice is to send home any tick that has been attached to a student and email the parent/guardian. This allows parents the opportunity to pursue tick testing, if desired. There are instances where students will remove ticks on their own and dispose of the tick. In this case, I am unable to send the tick home and will send the parent an email for notification.

Tick identification and testing:

- Tick identification and testing is available through the Tick Lab at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension. More information can be found at www.ticks.umaine.edu.
- Tick identification is available for free.
- Tick testing is available for \$15 with a three-day turnaround time. This service is only available to Maine residents.
 - o Deer ticks are tested for Lyme disease, anaplasmosis, and babesiosis.
 - o American dog ticks, lone star ticks, and other related tick species are tested for Rocky Mountain spotted fever, ehrlichiosis, and tularemia.
- While testing ticks for clinical purposes is not recommended, data from tick testing is very helpful for surveillance and determining tick infection rates in the state.

~ Nurse Sandy



4th Grade Update

The Maine Games are underway!

Each fourth-grade student has chosen a topic related to the state of Maine. Students have spent time at school researching their topic, and have brainstormed ways in which to create a game. The purpose of the game is to learn about the Maine topic while playing.

This year's topics include: loons; forts; fiddleheads; lighthouses; Maine Coon Cat; maple syrup; rivers; white-tail deer; blueberries; potatoes; tourmaline; black bear; puffin; Civil War; landlocked salmon; animal tracks; moose; honeybee; chickadee; lobsters and lobstering; and Camden Hills State Park.

We look forward to sharing our games with students at AVS!

Come and Get It! Yearbooks Go on Sale FRIDAY!

It's been a terrific year here at AVS and that can be seen in all of the smiles and memories made. For just \$15, you can get this year's yearbook to help cherish those memories for years to come! A purchase form will be sent home on Friday with your child(ren). Fill it out and send it back in to Ms. Billings before Friday, May 12th.

Didn't get last year's yearbook (2022-23)? No problem? For just \$12 we can take care of that for you!

You'll love this year's yearbook for years to come!

Ms Billings

Yearbook Coordinator

Pesticide Application

The school playground and soccer field will closed for use Saturday and Sunday the 29th and 30th of April so the school grounds can be sprayed for ticks.

Also due to a scheduling conflict Modern Pest was not able to make it here this past weekend to spray for stinging insects and spiders. The playground and soccer field will also be closed Saturday, May 6 and Sunday, May 7 so that service can be done.

My apologize for the inconvenience this may cause. Any questions please feel free to call me at the school.

Chris Bissonnette
Head of Maintenance
Appleton Village School
(207)785-4504x104



Fifth Grade News ~Mrs. King

Fifth graders are rolling along in our engineering unit and this spring we will be building LINX cars! Have a look at our assembly line photos.



Spring Concert and Artwalk

Dear Parent,

It's time for our spring concert and art show! Students K-5 will all be singing in the concert. Students in grades 5-8 who are in band, chorus and ukulele classes will be showing off their music skills too! We can't wait to share all we have learned.

When will this be? **Wednesday, May 17th**

The art show will be at **5:30 p.m.**

The concert will be **6:00 p.m.**

Performing students are to wear dressy clothes for this event. Dressy clothes include, but are not limited to, dress pants or dark colored pants, khaki pants, skirts, dresses, polo shirts, dress shirts, ties, sweaters, cardigans, dress shoes, etc.

Students in grade K-5 should go to their classrooms before the concert starts. Students who are in chorus, ukulele and band will go to an assigned classroom. The Concert will be inside and art show will be inside the gym at AVS.

Check out what's going on in the art room!

The **Spring Art Show** will be happening with the Spring Concert again this year!

Just like last year, prints of artwork will be displayed before the concert. You can purchase the prints for \$3 each at the show. Prints left from last year's art show will be available as well. If you would like to order extra prints (ready by the end of the school year) you will be able to order them at the show. Come see what our student-artists have been creating all year, and support the arts in our school!



Art Show 5:30-6:00 PM, May 17, 2023



You still have time to order keepsakes with your child's art in time for Mother's Day! Go to artsonia.com

AVS Trimester 2 Honor Roll & High Honor Roll

Consistent work habits are the foundation of strong academic achievement and lifelong success. Work Habits are the sole criteria used by teachers in establishing our Wildcat Honor Roll for AVS middle school students each trimester.

At the end of each grading period, students who have been observed consistently demonstrating above average work habits throughout the trimester are selected for Honor Roll, while students practicing exemplary work habits are recognized on High Honor Roll.

Congratulations to the recipients of these awards for the second trimester, 2022-2023!

Honor RollGrade 6

Giovanni Sinclair
Margaret Garrigan
Sophia Tolman

Grade 7

Wesley Butler
Ethan Foley
Noah Meade

Grade 8

Matyas Babik
Noah Bendtson
Dash Decker
Madison Guimond
Sophia Popli

High Honor RollGrade 6

Mia Kincaid
Emma Davis

Grade 7

Leo Vietze
Izzy Allen
Maddie Fuller
Marian Johnston
Julia Staples

Grade 8

Lilly Shackelford

Work habits are taught and assessed on progress reports each trimester, with each child scored on the following expectations:

- **Completes Assignments on Time**
- **Demonstrates Organizational Skills**
- **Participates Actively**
- **Shows Respectful Behavior**
- **Shows Responsibility with Tools, Materials, and Equipment**
- **Uses Time Wisely**

Third Grade News

In collaboration with Karen Scott and Than Porter, third graders had the opportunity to demonstrate their problem-solving skills and become engineers!

Working on Lego & Coding skills...



SIMPLY SECOND

The second graders participated in the Knox-Lincoln Soil & Water Conservation District Poster Contest. The topic was WATERSHED: ONE WATER. The students learned about the importance of watersheds in our environment by engaging in watershed activities and learning tools. Congratulations to Max Greenaway for Class First Place Winner and Asa Salami as Class Honorable Mention. CONGRATULATIONS TO SIMPLY SECOND FOR DOING A TERRIFIC JOB!!!



Pre-K Spring News

Happy Spring! Prior to our vacation, Pre-K was busy learning about Earth Week.

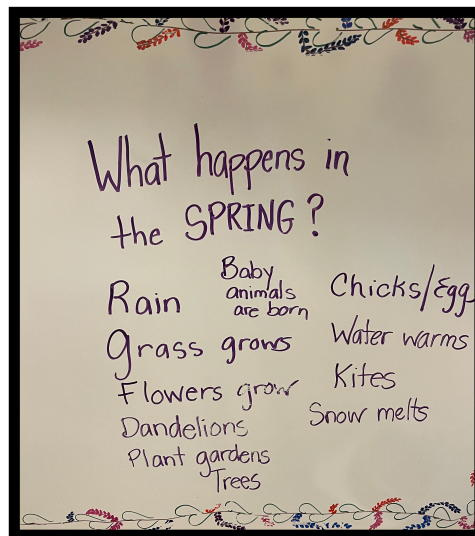
Specifically, what do we need to do to help our Earth "be happy" and why.

We began with a playground clean-up: each child collected a piece of garbage and brought it in to our classroom. We worked together to sort and graph the trash that was collected. We found that plastic outnumbered our other categories of wood, paper and metal.

Later in our study, the children engaged in an activity which explained how pollution and litter effects our animal friends. The children rolled a die and then collected that number in pieces of trash that I had placed in a pretend pond habitat. We observed that, with all of the litter, the animals had no where to play and eat (and, in fact, we couldn't even see some of the animals at all because of the trash.) As the children counted out the trash pieces, the animals had more and more room to live. At the end of the lesson, the children were THRILLED to see how they had helped the animals better their lives by doing such a simple thing.

As the lessons of the week wrapped up, the children worked together to create a list of ways that we could all make the world a healthier and happier place. Their answers were thoughtful, loving and true.

Moving on through the rest of April and the month of May, we will be studying characteristics of Spring. We will be taking a look at weather, plants, frogs, birds and insects. I can't wait as I know it will be lots of fun! The children already know so much, as demonstrated by their answers to our question of the day on Monday:



After School with Owls Head Transportation Museum

Thank you to Megan Galinsky & OHTM, as well as all of our volunteers...Mary Mercardo, Violetta Mainczyk, Missy Darling, and Sarah Saucier!



A Message from the Wildcat Ambassadors!

The primary mission of the Wildcat Ambassadors is to support and enhance education at AVS. By fundraising, paying for materials and programs to enrich education (e.g., new band instruments), and presenting fun events (like movie nights), we support the whole AVS community of students, teachers, other staff, and parents too.

For the Wildcat Ambassadors to support AVS, we need more parents of pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, first, second, and third grade to join us. If just a few of you participate for just a couple of hours each month, our booster group will be stronger, and you can have a direct say in what we do and how we do it.

As parents of kids in AVS's younger grades, you have that much more reason to invest your time in your school community. Please email me at beth.grierson@fivetowns.net if you would like to join us and help elevate your kids' years at AVS!

Respectfully,
Beth Grierson

Beth Grierson, Wildcat Ambassador President



HAL Softball and Baseball Schedule

Here is the baseball and softball schedule. Baseball home games will be played in Lincolnville and softball home games are played in Hope.

- May 1st**-HAL @ CRMS
- May 2nd**-Searsport @ HAL
- May 4th**-Troy Howard @ HAL
- May 9th**-Medomak @ HAL
- May 11th**-HAL @ St. George
- May 13th**-HAL @ Oceanside (doubleheader time TBA)
- May 16th**-HAL @ Troy Howard
- May 17th**- CRMS @ HAL
- May 22nd**- St.George @ HAL
- May 23rd**- HAL @ Searsport
- May 30th**- HAL @ Medomak

**** Games start at 3:45p.m.**





School Union 69
Office of the Superintendent
Hope, Appleton & Lincolnville

2561 Atlantic Highway
Lincolnville, ME 04849
Tel: 207.763.3818
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Kathryn Clark, *Superintendent*
Deb Bailey, *Director of Special Services*
Paula Emerson, *Bookkeeper*
Wendy Tricomi, *Central Office / Special Education Secretary*

April 25, 2023

To: Members of the Citizenry of the towns of Hope and Appleton:

School Union 69 would like to announce that the districts of Hope Elementary School and Appleton Village School are seeking to dispose of approximately 60 computers that are no longer appropriate for use at the schools. If you are interested in purchasing these computers for the cost of \$40.00 per computer, please contact the School Union Central Office at 207-763-3818 before **Thursday, May 11, 2023.**

Computers available:

MacBook Air (11-inch, Early 2015) 11.6-inch (diagonal) widescreen; 128GB PCIe-based flash storage; 4GB of 1600MHz LPDDR3 onboard memory
Configurable to 8GB.

For further details, please contact us at the number above or email kate.clark@fivetowns.net

ESEA Application for 2023-2024

Appleton Village School accepts funding through the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) of 1965. As part of ESEA, Appleton Village School is required to provide reasonable opportunity for public comment on the consolidated application and consider such comment prior to the submission of the application. Appleton Village School is accepting public comment on the ESEA application through June 30, 2023. Please contact Susan Stilwell, Principal, to share your thoughts about the application's goals and priorities. There will be an opportunity for public comment at the June 15, 2023 board meeting.

Helping Children Learn®

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Tips Families Can Use to Help Children Do Better in School
 Appleton Village School



April 2023

A sense of self-respect gives your child a boost in school and life

Children who have self-respect understand that they can learn, and are more motivated to try. They are also more likely to value and respect other people. And they are less likely to be negatively influenced by peer pressure.

To encourage your child's sense of self-respect, foster the elements that contribute to it. These include:

- **Competence.** It feels great to be good at things. Give your child opportunities to learn and practice new skills—everything from reading to playing sports to doing chores.
- **Confidence.** It helps to have family members who stay positive through challenges. Display a "You can do it" attitude. Encourage your child to learn from mistakes and try new strategies.
- **Independence.** Let your child make age-appropriate choices, such as what to wear or when to do a task.
- **Accomplishment.** Notice and compliment your child's effort and progress. "You've read three books this week. I'm impressed!"
- **Acceptance.** Ask about and listen to your child's opinions and beliefs. Show that you appreciate and love your child unconditionally.



Act now to make an impact this year

The school year is heading into the home stretch. If you haven't been as involved in your child's education this year as you would have liked, you may be thinking it's too late to start. The truth is, it is *never* too late.

When families and schools team up, the results are clear—academic achievement improves, and so do student attitudes and behavior.

Starting right now, you can:

- **Contact your child's teacher.** Ask, "What are the most important school skills to work on with my child before the end of the year? How can I help my student succeed?"
- **Attend school events** (in person or online), particularly those that involve your child. Participate and connect with staff and other families.
- **Join the parent-teacher group.** If you can't go to meetings, read the minutes to stay informed.
- **Keep talking with your child** about school. Emphasize that your child's education is important.

Hearing can affect reading

Research shows that hearing loss is often a factor when children struggle to read. In one study, 25 percent of children who had reading issues showed mild to moderate hearing loss their families were unaware of. If you notice signs of reading difficulties, or a drop in participation at school, have your child's hearing screened by a doctor.



Source: Coventry University, "Screen children with reading difficulties for hearing problems," ScienceDaily.

Focus on concentration

Wandering attention makes learning difficult. To improve focus, help your child:

- **Remove distractions.**
- **Break down big assignments** into small parts.
- **Take a five-minute break** after 20 minutes of studying.

Create a cloud viewer

Have fun learning about different types of clouds. Help your child cut the middle out of a piece of cardboard so it looks like a picture frame. Tape it to a craft stick or ruler.

Go outside and have your child use the viewer to frame individual clouds. Talk about their features. Do they match these types?

- **Cumulus:** Low, puffy and white, like cotton balls. Usually seen on sunny days.
- **Stratus:** Low and gray, covering much of the sky like blankets. May bring rain.
- **Cumulonimbus:** Tall towers with dark bases. Often bring thunderstorms.



Source: "The Types of Clouds and What They Mean," NASA.

Helping Children Learn

Tips Families Can Use to Help Children Do Better in School

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
April 2023

Q&A How can I teach my child the value of hard work?

Q: My fifth grader knew the big science project was due soon, but kept ignoring the deadline to play. Finally, I made my child stay inside the whole weekend to finish the project. How else can I make it clear that work is a necessary part of life?

A: School projects aren't just about researching a topic or writing a paper. They're also about teaching kids to focus on a task and follow through.



To help your child grasp this lesson:

- **Share your own experiences.** Did you ever slack off when you were a child? And did it come back to bite you? Tell your child. "I once waited and waited to do a report. I ran out of time to research and write and had to rush and my report was really weak and sloppy. I was embarrassed when I had to present it to the class."
- **Tackle a big project together.** Choose a time-consuming task—such as planting a garden or painting a room. When you finish, talk about how nice it feels to have accomplished the goal. Remind your child that you couldn't have done it without hours of work.
- **Point to role models.** There are lots of books, movies and articles about people who worked hard, stayed in school and achieved their dreams. Ask a librarian to recommend some that might inspire your child.

Parent Quiz

Do you aid recovery after letdowns?

A cancelled event, a lost game, a quarrel with a classmate. All students face disappointments in school from time to time. Are you helping your child learn to rise above them? Answer *yes* or *no* to the questions below:

- ___ **1. Do you discuss** what can and can't be changed? "You can't change the casting, but you can work backstage and be part of the play."
- ___ **2. Do you help** your child think of positive reactions to unexpected events?
- ___ **3. Do you encourage** your child to learn from mistakes? "Next time, you can start studying earlier and earn a better grade."
- ___ **4. Do you allow** your child to express feelings, but not sulk?

- ___ **5. Do you ask** questions to help your child think of next steps?

How well are you doing?

More yes answers mean you are helping your child move forward after letdowns. For each no, try that idea.

"Courage doesn't always roar. Sometimes courage is the quiet voice at the end of the day saying 'I will try again tomorrow.'"
—Mary Anne Radmacher

Enjoy silly grammar games

Who says grammar has to be boring? Play these word games with your child to have fun building writing fundamentals:

- 1. Make your own mad libs.** Review the different parts of speech (*noun, verb, adjective, etc.*) with your child. Then write a story with missing words. For example, "The cat climbed on the ___ (*noun*)."
Take turns filling in the blanks. Silly words add to the fun.
- 2. Play with punctuation.** Write a short story without punctuation. Can your child read it aloud? Can you? It's challenging! Then edit the story together, adding punctuation that makes it easy (or funny) to read. Then it's your child's turn to write a story for you to punctuate.

Discuss why we need rules

It's easier for children to follow rules when they understand why they are necessary. Ask your child to imagine a world without rules. What would happen if stealing was OK, if people could drive on whichever side of the road they wanted, if children never had to go to bed?



When you make rules at home, explain the reasons for them. When your child obeys, be specific in your praise: "Thanks for getting up on time. Now we can eat a relaxed breakfast together."

Social skills are school skills

Cooperation is important in school, and social problems can interfere with learning. To reinforce your child's social skills:

- **Role-play interactions** together.
- **Read stories** about friendship.
- **Be a role model.** Let your child see you cooperating and being a good friend.
- **Find opportunities** for your child to spend time with other kids.

Helping Children Learn®

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Helping Students Learn[®]

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Tips Families Can Use to Help Students Do Better in School
 Appleton Village School



April 2023

Share strategies that help your middle schooler retain learning

The time students spend learning, in class and at home, is only effective if they can remember and use what they learn. This can be challenging, because the human brain is wired to forget.

To improve recall of learned information, encourage your middle schooler to:

- **Verify understanding.** It's tough to memorize something if you don't know what it means in the first place.
- **Restate the material.** Putting topics into your child's own words can help the concepts stick.
- **Set facts to music.** Suggest that your child make up a tune or simple rhyme to remember names, dates or math formulas.
- **Draw a diagram or picture** about the material.
- **Dive into entertainment media** on the subject. Is your child studying a particular history topic? Suggest submerging in books, movies and songs on the topic. Your child can also search online for videos that explain difficult concepts.
- **Sleep on it.** The brain processes and stores information while people sleep. Suggest that your child review key facts one more time right before going to bed.



Source: L. Gravitz, "The Forgotten Part of Memory," *Nature*.



Self-respect leads to respect for others

Self-respect is not only vital for students' mental well-being, it also paves the way for respect for others. A self-respecting child feels worthy of fair treatment, and sees that it would be out of character to treat others differently.

To nurture your child's sense of self-respect:

- **Help strengthen resistance** to negative peer pressure. Discuss ways to avoid situations your child knows are not right.
- **Look for the positive.** Everyone experiences setbacks. Reinforce that these are temporary, and that your child can make a fresh start and succeed.
- **Highlight your child's** strengths. Explain that everyone has different strengths and weaknesses. This helps children control feelings of jealousy.
- **Set an example.** Speak positively about yourself, and forgive your mistakes. Be honest and follow through with commitments.

Source: S. Covey, *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens*, Fireside.

Watch water climb upward

Help your child discover *capillary action* with this colorful science experiment. Together, line up five clear cups, then:

1. **Fill cups 1, 3 and 5** halfway with water, and add a few drops of food dye to each (red in 1, yellow in 3 and blue in 5).
2. **Twist four paper towels** into snakes.
3. **Put one end** of a towel into cup 1, and the other end into cup 2. Repeat with a towel going from cup 2 to 3, and so on.
4. **Wait a day.** What happens?

The empty cups now contain orange and green water! *Capillary action* draws the water molecules up the towels and into the next cup. This is the same process that roots use to draw water up into plants.



Source: "Capillary Action and Water," U.S. Geological Survey.

Learning math is a process

When middle schoolers are learning something new in math, it can often be hard at first. In those times, talk about the process. Math builds on itself, step by step. Talk about how far your child has come, and how the new skills your child is developing will make the next step make sense.

Encourage a contest entry

Want to spur your child to develop talents and interests? Suggest entering a contest. Contests can:

- **Motivate excellence.** Competition may drive your child to deliver a "personal best."
- **Boost self-image.** Win or lose, your child will have taken a healthy risk.



To find a suitable contest, ask the school or a librarian. Be sure to research sponsors and rules—you should not have to pay or provide personal financial information.

Helping Students Learn

Tips Families Can Use to Help Students Do Better in School

MIDDLE SCHOOL

April 2023

Q&A How can I enrich my child's stay-at-home spring break?

Q: Our budget won't stretch to travel over spring break and my child is disappointed. How can we make the most of the week at home without breaking the bank?

A: Don't worry. Travel is only one way to provide interesting learning experiences for your child. You can plan a few entertaining and educational things to do together at home during the break.

Here are some low-cost ideas:

- **Visit local attractions.** What draws visitors to your area? Are there historic sites, state parks or distinctive geographical features nearby? Explore together and help your child see your hometown with fresh eyes.
- **Help your child "shadow"** a person working in a career of interest. See if you can arrange a day when your child can volunteer or observe.
- **Tour a nearby college.** You don't have to schedule anything formal—just walk around campus. Or spend some time looking at college websites to see what courses, locations and sizes appeal to your child.
- **Host a movie night.** If possible, invite a school friend of your child's over for popcorn and a movie based on a book. Then challenge your child to read the book and tell you which was better.



Parent Quiz Are you on board to reduce absences?

Absences from school contribute to learning gaps, and they increase the chances that students who fall behind will stay behind. Are you doing all you can to ensure regular, on-time attendance? Answer *yes* or *no* below:

- ___ 1. Do you make school attendance a family priority?
- ___ 2. Do you have your child take steps that help with timely arrival, such as using an alarm clock?
- ___ 3. Do you emphasize that you won't tolerate your child skipping classes?
- ___ 4. Do you schedule appointments and activities for times when school is not in session?
- ___ 5. Do you work with the school to make sure you are

alerted if your middle schooler is not in class?

How well are you doing?

More yes answers mean you are reinforcing the importance of attendance all year long. For each no, try that idea.

"Resetting daily attendance habits is essential to recovery."
—Attendance Works

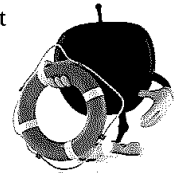
Help your child move beyond discouragement

Low grades can drain your child's confidence and motivation to keep trying. If your middle schooler is discouraged about grades:

1. **Make it clear** that while grades matter, they don't measure your child's worth.
2. **Help consider causes.** Ask what your child thinks the problem is. Sometimes it's not academic ability, but poor study habits or test anxiety.
3. **Contact teachers** for their views about what's happening.
4. **Set realistic goals** for improvement.

It's OK to ask for help

School counselors support students' overall well-being—emotional and physical wellness as well as academic needs. You and your child can ask counselor for help:



- **Developing study skills.**
- **Planning an academic path** to prepare for future classes.
- **Strengthening coping skills** for dealing with bullies, grief or other crises.
- **Locating additional professionals** for academic, personal and family support.

Help your child volunteer

Participating in volunteer and community service activities can improve your child's self-image—and maybe grades, too. Research shows that students who volunteer:

- **Are more likely to** stay in school and perform well.
- **Are more responsible** and feel more connected to their community.
- **Are less likely to** take dangerous risks.

Source: "Civic Engagement: Benefits for Youth," Youth.gov.

Helping Students Learn®

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Elementary School

Daily Learning Planner

Ideas families can use to help children do well in school

Appleton Village School



THE PARENT INSTITUTE®

April 2023

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

- 1. Ask your child to write a poem or story about a favorite activity.
- 2. Use a permanent marker to mark off inches on the side of a straight-sided jar. Set the jar outside. See how many inches of rain fall this week.
- 3. Talk together about books you loved when you were your child's age.
- 4. Have your child rank assignments from easiest to hardest. Suggest tackling the hardest one first.
- 5. Have a family rhyming dinner. Invent rhyming names for the foods you serve.
- 6. Ask your child to draw a picture of something that happened in school today. Then talk about it.
- 7. Go on a map search through a printed or online newspaper. How many maps can your child find?
- 8. Have everyone in the family spend a half hour picking up the house. Many hands make light work.
- 9. Change chairs at mealtime. Each person pretend to be the person who usually sits in that chair.
- 10. It's National Poetry Month. Read three poems with your child today.
- 11. Time various tasks you and your child do in a day.
- 12. With your child, learn how to say *please*, *thank you* and *excuse me* in at least three different languages.
- 13. Look through news articles together. What headlines interest your child? Read an article aloud and discuss it.
- 14. Have a Geography Challenge. Name a state, province or country. Who can call out the capital first?
- 15. Brainstorm ways your family could help beautify your neighborhood.
- 16. Encourage your child to set a weekly goal. Write it down. Could you do this, too?
- 17. Have your child draw an upside-down picture today.
- 18. Sing your child's favorite song together.
- 19. Avoid a power struggle by challenging your child to come up with a solution that works for you both.
- 20. Set aside time every day for reading aloud. Sometimes, ask your child to read to you.
- 21. Ask your child, "What is something you have done in your life that makes you proud?"
- 22. Have your child make a list of items your family can reuse, repurpose or recycle.
- 23. Model positive work habits for your child, such as promptness, respect and responsibility.
- 24. Look over your child's schoolwork. Give specific compliments first, and then constructive criticism.
- 25. Ask your child to give you a tour of the school website.
- 26. Encourage your child to look up unfamiliar words in assignments in a dictionary.
- 27. Ask your child to listen for a certain word as you read and say it aloud on hearing it.
- 28. Take a walk with your child tonight. See how many stars you can see.
- 29. Visit the library with the whole family and be sure everyone checks out some books.
- 30. Plan to get some outdoor exercise with your child every day this week.

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Middle School

Daily Learning Planner

Ideas families can use to help students do well in school

Appleton Village School



THE PARENT INSTITUTE®

March • April • May 2023

March 2023

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

- 1. Talk with your child about the qualities you each look for in a friend.
- 2. If you want your child to get more involved at school, set an example. Join a club or group that interests you.
- 3. Have your child repeat what you say word for word. Then switch roles.
- 4. Encourage your child to combine exercise and learning by listening to an audiobook while walking or working out.
- 5. Don't pay your child for regular chores. All family members should help out around the house.
- 6. Talk about stereotypes with your child. Discuss why they're unfair.
- 7. At a store, practice rounding prices to the nearest dollar with your child.
- 8. If your child gets headaches, squints or holds books too close, schedule a vision check-up.
- 9. Tell your child a joke. Laughing together eases stress.
- 10. Talk with your child about how each of you could improve your listening skills.
- 11. Together, watch a movie based on a book your child has read. Ask, "How are the versions similar or different?"
- 12. Help your child build vocabulary. Do a crossword puzzle together today.
- 13. Put your child in charge of taking photos at a family event.
- 14. Exchange persuasive letters with your child. Try to convince each other of something.
- 15. Establish times when using digital devices is not allowed, such as during mealtimes and right before bedtime.
- 16. When looking at graded work, focus first on what your child has learned in that subject, not on the grade.
- 17. Ask your child to teach you about a concept that will be on an upcoming test.
- 18. Encourage your child to write a nice note to an elderly neighbor or family friend.
- 19. Give your child a math-related household task to do, such as doubling a recipe.
- 20. Remind your child of the long-term benefits of achieving in school.
- 21. Look at pictures together from when your child was young. Tell stories that highlight your child's positive characteristics.
- 22. Your child is likely to remember more from two 20-minute study sessions than from one 40-minute session.
- 23. Make a decision as a family. It builds cooperation and communication.
- 24. Take your child to a high school event, such as a play or sports game. Talk about things to look forward to in high school.
- 25. Ask your child to pretend to be mayor for the day. What three things would make your community a better place?
- 26. Is your child getting enough exercise? Take a brisk walk together today.
- 27. With your child, learn how to count to 10 in three foreign languages.
- 28. Middle schoolers know their shortcomings. They need you to remind them of their strengths.
- 29. With your child, look up things you both want to learn more about in an online encyclopedia.
- 30. Remind your child to consider character rather than popularity when choosing friends.
- 31. Vaping is on the rise again. Learn about the dangers and share them with your child.

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**Appleton Village School
2023-2024 School Calendar Approved March 27, 2023**

JULY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

AUGUST (2)						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	W	W	25	26
27	P	HAL	O	31		

SEPTEMBER (20)						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2						
3	H	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

OCTOBER (21)						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2						
3	H	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

NOVEMBER (18)						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	E	H	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	X	H	X	25
26	27	28	29	30		

DECEMBER (14)						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2					P	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	X	23
24	H	X	X	X	X	30
31						

JANUARY (21)						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	H	3	4	5	6	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	H	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

FEBRUARY (16)						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2						3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	E	17
18	H	X	X	X	X	24
25	26	27	28	29		

MARCH (20)						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2						
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	P	16
17	18	19	20	E	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

APRIL (17)						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2						5
6	7	8	9	10	11	E
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

MAY (22)						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2						3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

JUNE (9)						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	O	14	15
16	17	18	H	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

TDB	Flex Day
TDB	Flex Day
August 21-22	Safety Care full training
August 23 & 24	Teacher Workshop Days
August 25	Safety Care recertification
August 28	Teacher Prep Day
August 29	HAL Day
August 30	First Trimester 61 days
August 30	First Day of School 1-8
September 1	First Day for Pre-K and K
September 4	Labor Day
September 6	Open House
October 9	Indigenous Peoples Day
November 8	Veterans Day Celebration
November 9	Early Release (11:30) PT Conferences
November 10	Veterans Day
November 22 - 24	No School Thanksgiving Break
December 1	End of First Trimester
December 1	Teacher Prep Day
December 4	Second Trimester (58 days)
December 22-31	Holiday Vacation
January 1	New Year's Day
January 15	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
February 16	Early Release (11:30)/Staff & Students
February 19	Presidents' Day
February 19-23	School Vacation
March 14	End of 2nd Trimester
March 15	Teacher Prep Day
March 18	Third Trimester (58 days)
March 21	Early Release (11:30) PT Conferences
April 12	Early Release (11:30)/Staff & Students
April 15	Patriot's Day
April 15-19	School Vacation
Month of May	State testing for grades 3 to 8
May 27	Memorial Day
June 13	Early Release/Last Day (with 5 snow days)
June 19	Juneteenth

*Last day of school is subject to change.

- H - School Holidays (11)
- O - First/Last days (2)
- X - School Vacation Days (15)
- E - Early Release Days @ 11:30 (4)
- W - Teacher Workshop Days (6) plus 2 flex days
- P= Teacher prep days NO Students

180 Student Days (5 snow days built in)
175 Actual Student Days