

APPLETON VILLAGE SCHOOL

Wildcat News



Third Grade
Page 4



Fourth Grade
Page 3

FOR YOUR CALENDAR

- May 12 Salmon Release, Grades 3 and 8
- May 15 Authors Day – K-2
- May 17 Artwalk/Concert 5:30pm
- May 19 Kellie Bailey, Partners for Enrichment
- May 22 School Committee Meeting 5pm
- May 22 Budget Referendum 6pm, AVS gym
- May 22-25 State Science Testing, Grades 5 and 8
- May 25 Author's Day, Kerin Hawkes, Grades 3-5
- May 26 Botanical Gardens, Grades PreK-2
- May 29 No School, Memorial Day
- June 19 No School, Juneteenth
- June 22 Last day of school, 11:30 dismissal

SOFTBALL/BASEBALL SCHEDULE, SEE PAGE 12.

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.

Thank you for helping spread the word throughout Appleton.

Congratulations to Dominic Todd!

Back in November Dominic auditioned for the District 3 Music Honors festival. He did a fantastic job and made it in. He just recently got to participate in the music festival in April. He performed advanced songs on his trumpet for this festival with many other young, dedicated musicians in the area. Great job on your hard work and dedication Dominic!



Maine Game Warden Visit

What an amazing visit we had with Corporal Chris Dyer, State of Maine Game Warden. Bear, Acea and Harley were able to meet, have lunch with, talk to, ask previously prepared questions, and explore Chris's truck, blue lights and all. They learned a lot, made a new friend and were able to try on Chris's very heavy armored vest. Please ask Bear, Acea and Harley to tell you about Chris's visit. We all look forward to Chris's next visit!

Thank you everyone for your flexibility and for all you do every day! Meg



4th Grade Update

On April 27th, we participated in an Upcycling Program sponsored by Partners for Enrichment. We experienced one way to reuse/recycle plastic.

Last Friday each 4th grader brought in their Maine Game! We set up in the gym and many staff, students, and parents came by to play our games. We learned a lot about Maine by researching our topics, creating games, and playing them! So much fun!!



Partners for Enrichment

Third, Fourth, and Fifth graders had the opportunity to learn more about plastic, and ways to recycle-or upcycle-and repurpose it for other things...like bowls and art installations!

Thank you, Kim Bernard and Partners, for bringing this enrichment opportunity to our school!



Wildcat Pride! Assembly

On Tuesday afternoon, the entire Appleton Village School community gathered together in the gym at the end of the day for a Wildcat Pride! assembly. These assemblies are designed to bring together the school community to celebrate our Core Values of Kindness, Respect, Responsibility, and Honesty. By sharing, recognizing, and celebrating our Core Values, we work towards building and maintaining a school culture where every student is safe, known, valued, and belongs.

During the assembly, one student from each grade was recognized as "Most Improved Student" and presented with tickets to a Portland Sea Dogs Game. Students also enjoyed a brief video of teachers presenting "Tips for Success When Taking a Test". This month students in grades 2-8 are taking the Maine Through Year assessment. Teachers encouraged students to prepare for the test by getting plenty of sleep, eating a healthy breakfast, and giving their best effort.

The assembly concluded with a drawing from the Eighth Grade "Cornhole Raffle" fundraiser. Eighth graders have sold tickets to raise money for their class trip. The winning ticket was drawn, and the winner is Debbie Hilt of Union.

Fifth Grade

Students in fifth grade took part in a social studies lesson called "The King's M&Ms". The lesson teaches about NO TAXATION WITHOUT REPRESENTATION. In the photo is the King, Parliament and Tax Collector.



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 at **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 5 minutes 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](https://www.artsonia.com)



MAY IS CUSTOMER APPRECIATION MONTH
AT THE WILDCAT DEN
SCHOOL STORE!!!!!!

FRIDAY, MAY 19TH ALL SHOPPERS
CAN SPIN THE WHEEL OF PRIZES!!!!



DON'T MISS YOUR CHANCE TO WIN FREE
STORE MERCHANDISE AND SHOP AT THE
WILDCAT DEN!!!!!!

8:30-9:30 3-5

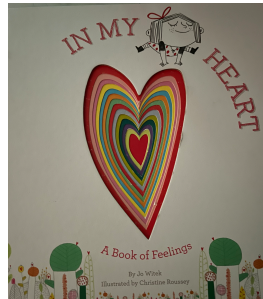
9:30-9:50 1st grade

9:50-10:10 Kindergarten

10:10-10:30 2nd grade

2:00 6th-8th

Pre-K Happenings

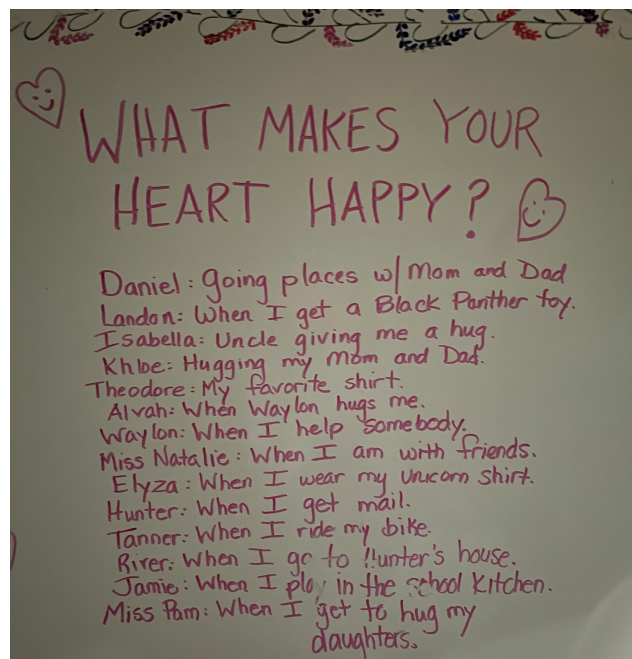


As Pre-K continues our social-emotional learning, we took time to read a new book called In My Heart: A Book of Feelings by Jo Witek.

The book features cut-out pages with heart shapes. Each page represents an emotion and depicts how the emotion affects the heart. Color is also represented, so it is a multi-sensory story (if you will.)

The book particularly resonated with the children because earlier in the year we had shared an activity of what happens to a heart when others choose to say or do hurtful things (the heart crumples more and more.) As we experience kindness from others, our heart begins to repair (it smooths out); it is never quite the same because the heart remembers hurt, but kindness and love make a tremendous difference.

Following our shared reading, the children, Miss Natalie and I generated a list of what makes our heart happy. Here is what was said:



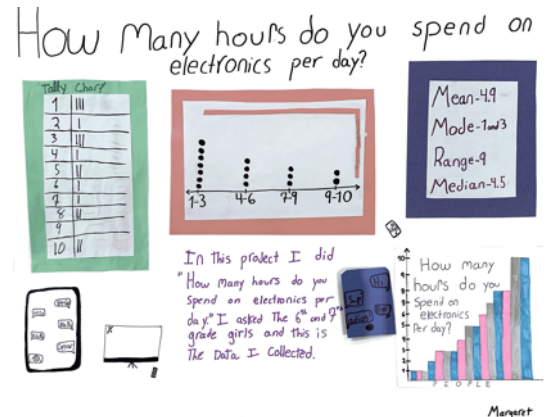
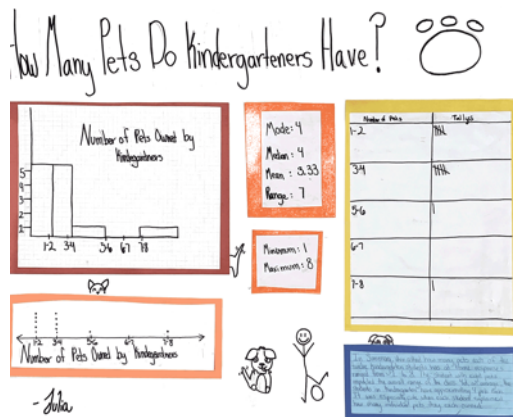
Learning in Middle School Knows No Boundaries

Middle School students at AVS have been very busy since returning from April break! After one day back at school, 8th grade students ventured off to Camp Kieve in Nobleboro, Maine, where they joined students from Hope, Lincolnville, Camden, and Rockport for a four-day, overnight experience with Kieve’s “Leadership Program”. In addition to building relationships with the students with whom they will enter Camden Hills Regional High School as 9th graders, the class participated in activities that challenged them to trust and support others while embracing risk. Holly Billings, David Munson, Jared Todd, and Gary Bernardo each accompanied students for one day at Kieve to check in with students and offer support and encouragement to students as they pushed outside of their comfort zones, either sharing a meal with new friends or scaling a climbing wall for the first time.

While 8th Grade students were at Kieve, 6th and 7th grade students were engaged in an interdisciplinary Project Based Learning experience each afternoon that culminated with presentations at the end of the week. Each student was challenged to form a statistical question that they explored by creating a survey and collecting data from students in the building. Students used this data to create a presentation that required them to express their learning with a dot plot, a histogram, a data tally, measures of central tendency, and a handwritten conclusion summarizing their research. This hands on, minds on project was completed after each student practiced public speaking skills by presenting their question and poster in front of their peers. Students rose to the occasion by creating quality work organized around creative questions that they had each created and were relevant to them on a personal level.

In addition to all of this, all middle schoolers completed the *Maine Through Year* assessment, in both reading and math, for the State of Maine Department of Education this past week. The results from this assessment will be available to teachers, families, and students in the Fall.

Students are finally back to their normal routine this week and 8th grade is preparing for a school dance on Friday evening, including 7th and 8th graders from Hope and Lincolnville. School Dances are organized and run by 8th grade students with support from 8th Grade Advisor, Holly Billings. Organizing these events provides real-life skills that students need, such as communication skills, teamwork, time management, goal setting, and leadership, while supporting efforts to raise funds for their class trip. Middle School dances offer an essential Social/Emotional development opportunity to adolescent learners and are made possible by the parent and teacher volunteers who chaperone.



First Grade

First graders had a visit from Deputy Davis and his K9 police dog, Marek last Friday. We enjoyed learning about how Marek was trained and got to watch him in action outside. Our favorite part? "When Deputy Davis swung him around with his chew toy!"



SIMPLY SECOND

The second graders were excited to engage in a Lego adventure with Ms. Scott. The program is called "LEGO EDUCATION SPIKE ESSENTIAL"

The program is part of a STEAM solution that ignites students' passion for STEAM learning through playful problem-solving and storytelling as well as preparing students to be resilient and independent thinkers, Their enthusiasm and ability to persevere when things get tough is astounding to observe. THANK-YOU MS. SCOTT FOR THIS EXCITING NEW LEARNING OPPORTUNITY!! WE TRULY APPRECIATE IT!



Sunrise / Ms. Scott

Daffodil Dissection Day

I walked into the 3rd grade class carrying a vase of flowers. What happened next was truly exciting. With the focused and steady hand of a surgeon Mrs. Stone's 3rd graders worked quietly as they carefully clipped and snipped apart their individual daffodils, identifying & separating each of the parts of the flower. That day they all became botanists. What fun!



Creativity at Work

You don't have to travel too far when looking for talent, our school is full of so many students who have a flair for the arts. With only 20 minutes of time, these two 7th graders worked diligently and were so willing to volunteer their time to create a fantastic bulletin board. Check it out! You can find it in the entryway into the cafeteria.





Softball and Baseball Schedule

SUBJECT TO CHANGE

May 9th-Medomak @ HAL, both HAL softball and baseball teams won!!!

May 11th-HAL @ St. George

May 12th- HAL @ CRMS (currently, softball only)

May 13th-HAL @ Oceanside (doubleheader)

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.

DTBD-Searsport @ HAL

DTBD-Troy Howard @ HAL





FIVE TOWN FOOTBALL

Five Town Football is excited to announce that we will be hosting the annual Jammer Camp at True Park in Hope (Church St).

This will be held the evenings of July 11-13 from 5:30-7:30pm. This camp is focused on skill development and conditioning drills to prepare for the fall football season. It is an opportunity for grades 4-8 athletes in the five-town community to participate in preseason football skills and drills. Registration is now open on our website: **fivetownfootball.com**

FTF will again offer an 8-man tackle football program for the 4-8th grade graders this fall, starting with equipment day August 13th. The 7th and 8th grade middle school team will participate in a school-based league.

Five Town Football is a non-profit organization funded entirely by local donations and can offer scholarship monies based on need to cover the registration fee. If interested in either program, becoming a sponsor or a volunteer –visit our website www.fivetownfootball.com and find us on facebook.



CALL FOR ARTISTS - THE PEOPLEPLACE BENCH PROJECT

People Place is excited to announce a call for artists for its upcoming event – The Community Bench Project. This unique project is an art exhibition featuring wooden benches transformed by local artists. Each bench will be sponsored by a local business or resident and will be displayed around town from June to August. Following the public display, there will be a community online auction where the benches will be up for bid. All proceeds from the auction will go to support Peopleplace and family scholarships. Thank you for considering helping Peopleplace continue to offer quality nature-based childcare for Midcoast families.

Artist Name:

Contact Information:

Bench Name/Bench Description:

Please direct all inquiries to fun@peopleplacecoop.org or kristenjeschke@gmail.com, and let us know if you have any questions about weather-resistant materials to use.

Learning Never Stops

Mid-Coast School of Technology Adult Education offers a wide variety of course for workforce training and personal enrichment. New catalogs are published online in mid-May, early August, and early December. Don't miss your chance to enroll in a CNA training, enjoy plein-air watercolors, or learn to bake incredible desserts in our state-of-the-art kitchens. More opportunities are coming your way at MCST Adult Ed.

For more information, visit midcoastadulthood.com or call 207-596-7752 x 3.

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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



May 2023

Enjoy fun times with your child while promoting summer reading

Your child has worked hard to build reading skills, vocabulary and background knowledge this year. At least 30 minutes a day of reading over the summer will help keep those skills from getting rusty.

Encourage a wide variety of reading activities. Include lots that allow you and your child to interact in fun ways—you'll keep your child interested and foster a lifelong love of reading.



To make reading together a daily pleasure for both of you:

- **Take turns.** When you read aloud, read one sentence in a book. Then pass it to your child to read the next. Or you read the narrative, and let your child read what the characters say.
- **Act it out.** Select a simple scene from one of your child's books. Assign character roles. Discuss what happens first, second, next. Then act the story out, adding lots of dialogue.
- **Get practical.** Do ordinary tasks together that involve reading. Ask your child to read directions to you while you drive. Or put your child in charge of reading the instructions while you build or repair something.
- **Share a laugh and some news.** Look for a newspaper with comics, in print or online. Ask your child which one is the funniest. Then discuss sports, the weather, letters to the editor, travel destinations, etc.



Show your child how useful math is

Elementary school math skills are essential life skills your child will rely on for years to come. Involving your child in everyday math activities at home makes it clear just how important these skills are. Have your child help you:

- **Cook a meal.** Put your student in charge of weighing and measuring. Discuss sizes, shapes and fractions. Ask questions, such as "How could we double this recipe?" and "When we add one quarter cup to one quarter cup, what do we get?"
- **Plan a family project.** Painting a room? Involve your child in figuring out how much paint you will need to complete the job.
- **Follow a budget.** How much will your family have to save each week to afford a treat at the end of the month? Together, track your progress on a chart.
- **Relax with games.** Lots of fun games involve math skills. Try dominoes, Uno, Connect Four and Monopoly.

Big task? Take small steps

Is your child tackling a big year-end project? Help your student break it down into smaller pieces by asking questions like: *Will you need to do research? Have you decided what kind of outline to make? Do we have the supplies you'll need to make a poster?* Then have your child schedule the time necessary to complete each step on a calendar. Celebrate as your child checks off each one!

Listen for science learning

Help your child discover a fun fact about ears with this science experiment:



1. **Have** your child sit with eyes closed and one ear covered.
2. **Tiptoe** around your child while clapping your hands. Can your child point to your location?
3. **Repeat** with both ears uncovered.

Two ears make it easier to pinpoint the direction a sound comes from because the sound reaches the closer ear first.

Source: D. Yuhas, "Sound Science: Where Did That Noise Come From?" Scientific American.

Try brainstorming activities

Brainstorming is a fun and creative way to come up with ideas and solutions. Your child can brainstorm to figure out a topic for a project, or how to divide complex concepts into bite-sized pieces to learn. Encourage your child to brainstorm by:



- **Making** lists of related words, facts and ideas.
- **Asking** "what if" questions.
- **Observing** and writing down what sights bring to mind.

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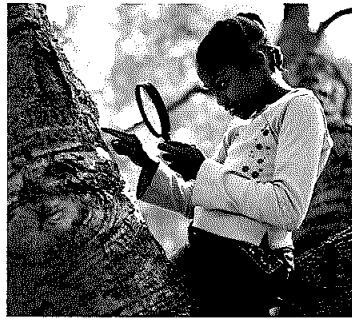
Tips Families Can Use to Help Children Do Better in School

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

May 2023

Q&A How can I bolster learning over the summer?

Q: Fourth grade has been a challenging year—my child will pass, but just barely. I don't have money for a tutor. But I know my student needs help or next year will be worse. What can I do over the summer to help my child catch up?



A: There are a number of things you can do to help put your child on track for fifth grade, but it's important to start now. Here's how:

- **Meet with your child's teacher** before school lets out to find out exactly where the issues are. If your child is struggling in math, for example, what concepts are difficult? Ask the teacher about resources and strategies to use with your child, and about free programs that may be available over the summer. Together, lay out a learning plan.
- **Eliminate medical factors.** Have your child's vision and hearing tested so you can rule out or address issues.
- **Establish learning goals.** Give your child a say in choosing goals.
- **Set a daily study time** to work on school skills.
- **Have fun exploring and learning together.** Visit museums, historic sites, zoos, and other interesting places near your home. Attend a free concert. Go on a hike and look for birds or animals, then try to identify them. All these experiences provide a foundation for learning.

Parent Quiz

Are you raising a confident reader?

Being a supportive audience when your child reads aloud is an important way to boost motivation and progress. Are you encouraging your child's reading confidence? Answer *yes* or *no* to the questions below:

1. **Do you choose** some books at read aloud time that have repetitive letter sounds, words and phrases?
2. **Do you encourage** your child to reread favorite books?
3. **Do you listen** patiently? Avoid frequently interrupting your child with corrections.
4. **Do you give** your child time to decode a word before you supply it?
5. **Do you provide** lots of praise and encouragement when your child reads?

How well are you doing?

More yes answers mean you are helping develop your child's skills and motivation to read. For each no, try that idea.

"The journey of a lifetime starts with the turning of a page."
—Rachel Anders

Consider community service

This summer, consider adding volunteer activities to your family's plans. Volunteering in the community teaches children they can make a difference. They learn about responsibility, compassion and more. Your family might help:

- **Remove** litter from a favorite local park or waterway.
- **Construct** or repair a home for someone in need. Look for an organization that allows children to help when they have family supervision.
- **Collect** supplies for a food bank or shelter. Your child may be able to sort food or fill bags with toiletries.
- **Raise** awareness for a charity working on a cause that matters to your child.

Issue a learning challenge

For students, summer usually means less stress and more free time.

So it's a great time to challenge your child to experiment with subjects and skills that may be out of the comfort zone. A child who has never felt like an athlete could try a new sport. An active child might learn to play an instrument. Trying and mastering hard things is how children learn.



Conduct a year-end review

Before the school year ends, help your child review how things have gone and make plans for the future. Together, discuss:

- **The best parts.** What was your child's favorite project? Most improved subject?
- **Successes.** How did your child overcome obstacles? How did effort pay off?
- **Goals.** What does your child want to accomplish this summer? Next year?

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



May 2023

Support your middle schooler's developing autonomy

Autonomy is the ability to think for oneself, make decisions and act independently. Middle schoolers crave this step toward adulthood, and responsible autonomy leads to greater academic achievement, higher self-esteem and less depression.

Developing responsible autonomy happens over time. To support the process:



- **Discuss the school year** with your middle schooler. What does your child think went well? What would your child like to do differently next year? Encourage asking teachers to suggest strategies for improvement.
- **Involve your student in making plans** for the summer. How does your child want to spend time? How will those ideas fit with family plans?
- **Suggest volunteering** for a cause your child cares about. Help your child research opportunities that match those interests.
- **Establish reasonable guidelines** for your child's social life. Within in them, allow your child the freedom to develop and navigate relationships without your direction. Wait to be asked before giving advice.
- **Talk with your child** about current events. Ask for your student's opinions, and consider them before sharing your own. Say that you are always interested in your child's ideas, whether or not you agree with them.



Provide a lesson in stock market math

Having a lot of money to buy what they want is a common goal for middle schoolers. Here's a game to turn your child's interest in money into a deeper understanding of investing and how the stock market works.

1. **Explain that stocks** are pieces, or shares, of a company. Their value can go up or down, depending on how many people want to buy or sell them.
2. **Show your child** where stock prices are listed online.
3. **Explain that** after buying 100 shares of a \$10 stock, your child would have \$1,000 dollars worth of it. But if the stock goes up to

\$11, your child would have \$1,100 worth. If it goes down to \$9, the investment's value drops to \$900.

4. **Name a pretend amount** of money, and let your child decide which stocks to "buy" with it.
5. **Have your child track** the stocks' values for a month. Each day, your child can chart the prices and figure out how much money the investment has made—or lost.

Schedule time for exercise

When students feel stressed, it is harder for them to do their best. Regular daily exercise has been shown to help kids feel happier, stay calm, sharpen memory and develop self-confidence. Help your child fit one hour of exercise into each day. Feeling in control physically may help your middle schooler feel able to take control of studies, too.



Source: "Exercise and stress: Get moving to manage stress," Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research.

Choose words carefully

Assume that your child is listening when you speak, even if it doesn't look that way. Middle schoolers perk up their ears when they hear their names, and they are mature enough to note the tone of your voice. If you could be overheard, avoid making negative comments about your child to others.

Read some 'brain movies'

Can your child remember every detail of every Marvel movie, but nothing about reading assignments for school? Demonstrate how to turn reading into "brain movies":

1. **Choose a poem** or story that is filled with descriptive language, such as Edgar Allan Poe's "The Raven."
2. **Find images online** that set the scene and show them to your child (Poe's house is a museum in Baltimore).
3. **Read the passage aloud.** Ask your child to imagine and describe what it would look like as a movie.



Encourage your child to take the same approach with assigned reading.

Source: D. Wilson and M. Conyers, "Brain Movies: When Readers Can Picture It, They Understand It," Edutopia.

Helping Students Learn[®]

Tips Families Can Use to Help Students Do Better in School

MIDDLE SCHOOL

May 2023

Q&A My child is worrying about next year. How can I help?

Q: My eighth grader likes middle school, but seems overwhelmed at the idea of starting high school in the fall. What can I do to make the transition easier?

A: Moving up to high school is a big step. And although you can't guarantee that there won't be a few bumps along the way, you can help your child prepare for this change.



Here are some things to do this summer:

- **Listen closely** when your child talks about concerns regarding high school. Ask questions to help identify specific issues. You may learn that your child is more worried about getting lost or being picked on for being the youngest than about an increased workload, as you thought.
- **Help your child** strengthen time management skills. High school *does* usually mean a bigger workload and more commitments. Get a calendar or planner (or let your child download an app) and encourage your child to practice using it to track appointments and activities over the summer.
- **Build familiarity** with the high school. Call and ask if your child can take a tour or get a hall map. Read the school's website together. What activities welcome freshmen?
- **Reach out** to a current 9th grader. Hearing first-hand about what the move up to high school is like may ease your child's fears.

Parent Quiz

Are you minimizing summer health risks?

Summer is prime time for fun and also for taking risks—especially for middle schoolers, who many not always be within sight of an adult. Are you making sure your child takes basic precautions? Answer *yes* or *no* below:

1. **Do you discuss** current community health risks with your child's doctor and follow medical recommendations?
2. **Do you insist** that your child put on sunscreen before going outdoors?
3. **Do you remind** your child to wash hands regularly?
4. **Do you encourage** your child to drink plenty of water when working, playing or exercising in the heat?
5. **Do you take** your child's maturity into account before

assigning certain chores, such as lawn-mowing with a ride-on mower?

How well are you doing?

More *yes* answers mean you are ready to help your child have a healthy summer. For each *no*, try that idea.

"We cannot protect our children from life. Therefore it is essential that we prepare them for it."
—Rudolf Dreikurs

Get set for a strong finish

The last few weeks of school are just as important as the rest. To help your child stay focused and motivated to learn:

- **Clearly state** that you expect your child's best effort through the last day. Discuss consequences for shirking assignments and skipping classes.
- **Express interest** in schoolwork. Ask about class discussions. Show that you still care about what your child is learning.
- **Keep up routines.** If longer days have your child putting off schoolwork later and later, help get things back on track. Mornings come as soon as ever, and your child needs sleep to focus during class.

Offer fun reasons to write

This summer, help your child learn two things about writing. First, writing has a purpose. Second, it can be a lot of fun! Encourage your child to write:

- **Trivia questions** about a favorite topic. This lets your child demonstrate expertise.
- **Listicles**—short, fun lists like *Seven things seventh graders should know* or *The top five dog movies of all time*. To be taken seriously, your child will have to give reasons for the rankings.
- **Online reviews** of companies or products. Feedback is a purpose for writing.



Strike a screen balance

For many kids, summer means more screen time. But the key to keeping screen use positive is balance. Students may like to socialize with friends on social media, but they need face-to-face interactions, too. They need screen-free time to take on new responsibilities and explore new interests as well as time to relax with a movie. And they need fresh air and exercise to avoid the health issues linked to too much sedentary screen time.

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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®

May 2023

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

- 1. Teach your child how to prepare nutritious after-school snacks.
- 2. Have each family member make a list of personal strengths. Read them aloud. Add to one another's lists.
- 3. Role-play a sticky situation together. What would your child do if friends were teasing someone at school?
- 4. Remind your child that it is not necessary to like a teacher in order to learn something in a class.
- 5. Learn together. Watch a "how-to" video with your child today.
- 6. Give your child some sidewalk chalk. Do math problems outside together.
- 7. Ask your child to give you an "evening news" report about what happened at school today. What's the scoop?
- 8. Play Alphabet Mix-up. Choose a word and put the letters in alphabetical order. Can your child figure out the word?
- 9. Have your child thread a button onto some string, then make the button spin.
- 10. Low grades indicate a problem to be solved. Ask what your child thinks the problem is. What could your student do to fix it?
- 11. Challenge your child to do a secret good deed for someone at school.
- 12. Create a display of your child's best schoolwork. Rotate the work on display frequently.
- 13. Have your child write and send a letter or email to a relative.
- 14. Tonight, let your child stay up later to read.
- 15. Ask the school about dates for year-end tests. Make sure your child gets enough sleep the nights before.
- 16. Teach your child how to disagree respectfully.
- 17. Make up a song featuring your child's name.
- 18. Ask your child, "What is the nicest thing a friend has ever done for you?"
- 19. Talk with your child about your family's origins.
- 20. Go on a picnic with your child today. After eating, stretch out on a blanket and read together.
- 21. Do a crossword puzzle with your child today.
- 22. Cover the illustration on a page of a book. Read the page aloud. Can your child guess what's in the picture?
- 23. Make a list with your child of words that came from other languages. Here's a start: *vamoose, taco, pasta*.
- 24. Have a pattern day. Ask your child to notice patterns all around, such as a striped shirt or streets arranged alphabetically.
- 25. Ask your child to choose a country and learn more about it.
- 26. How many types of punctuation can your child find today?
- 27. Celebrate National Bike Month by having your child review the "rules of the road."
- 28. If you give your child an allowance, set guidelines for how much should be used for buying things, saving and giving to charity.
- 29. It's Memorial Day. Talk with your child about why this holiday is celebrated in the United States.
- 30. Get out five pipe cleaners. Challenge your child to twist and bend them to create an animal.
- 31. Together, read a book about your town or state.

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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

May 2023

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

- 1. Let your child see you passing time with a book instead of a phone.
- 2. Remind your child how important it is to turn in work. Just one missing assignment can lower a grade.
- 3. Together, make a “world time” display with several clocks. Set them to times in different countries.
- 4. Does your middle schooler feel a need for more freedom? More time to talk? More privacy? Ask what your child thinks.
- 5. Challenge your child to create a recipe and write it down. Try it out!
- 6. Visit an outdoor site with your child today, such as a garden or a park.
- 7. Ask your child to name an *adjective* and an *adverb*.
- 8. Discuss something you recently learned with your child. This shows education is a lifelong process.
- 9. Give your child three reasons why spending time together makes you happy.
- 10. Start a list of places your family would like to visit. Have your child research information about these places.
- 11. Encourage persistence by saying things such as “I know you can figure this out.”
- 12. Spend a few minutes talking with your child at bedtime.
- 13. Find a free cultural event to attend with your child, such as an exhibit or concert.
- 14. Dig out a favorite children’s book and read it together. There are still lessons to be learned.
- 15. Notice your child’s interests and talents. Then encourage them.
- 16. Try to have a rhyming conversation with your child. It may be tough at first, but you’ll get better!
- 17. Keep screen entertainment turned off today. Let your child be responsible for thinking of alternative activities.
- 18. Point out an example of prejudice to your child. Talk about ways to deal with intolerance.
- 19. Explore a museum website with your child.
- 20. Bring a compass on a walk. As you make turns, have your child tell you whether you’re heading *north*, *south*, *east* or *west*.
- 21. Teach your child a three-step process for any job: *plan*, *do*, *finish*.
- 22. Social media makes it easy to hurt someone. Make a family rule: Don’t post anything you wouldn’t say to someone’s face.
- 23. If your child is struggling in a class, it’s not too late to ask the teacher for advice.
- 24. When your child tells you something important, restate it in your own words to make sure you understood.
- 25. Hang a chalkboard in your child’s room to encourage writing.
- 26. Praise your child to someone else when your child can overhear.
- 27. Visit the library. Check out a book on simple science experiments you and your child can try at home.
- 28. Encourage your child to write a letter to a teacher or coach who has been a positive influence.
- 29. Suggest that your child start a book club with friends.
- 30. Talk together about your child’s dream job.
- 31. Teach your child a useful skill, like how to sew on a button.

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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						
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
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