



S.A.Y.
San Diego

Your Student's Planner---

The Key to Success in Middle School

At most schools, a planner is given to students at the beginning of the year. The planner is a parent's life-line into the classroom and the curriculum. Here's how to use it to help set the stage for academic success:

- ☆ **ASK TO SEE your student's planner every day.**
- ☆ **SOMETHING SHOULD BE WRITTEN DOWN for every subject.**
Examples: homework for the next day, assignments for the week, upcoming tests and projects.
- ☆ **WHAT TO DO IF THE PLANNER IS BLANK:**
 - **First**, ask your student why it is blank.
 - **Ask** about assignments and projects
 - **If the planner continues to be blank**, contact the teacher to ask what the homework schedule is for that class. You can ask the teacher to sign the planner on days when there is no assignment.
- ☆ **WHAT TO DO If there is no assignment for the next day:**
 - **Your student** should still spend time on school preparation or reading.
 - **Helpful activities** include reading over notes, making math flash cards, or reading. Daily reading is a required activity.
- ☆ **WHY THIS IS IMPORTANT:**
Students who do well in middle school and high school spend some time every day on school-related work, even if there is no specific assignment.
- ☆ **READING AND SCHOOL SUCCESS:**
Research has shown that students who read at home for 30 minutes every day get higher scores on standardized tests... and do better in school. Reading at home should be a part of every middle school student's day. There are many wonderful books to suit every interest at the school library.

Daily Homework Time

- Parents should enforce a Homework Time EVERY DAY (Mon – Thurs) even when you have checked the planner and there is no assignment due the following day.
- During this time, allow no distractions- No Phone, No TV
- The homework time can vary according to each day's schedule but it does need to be scheduled in advance, just like any other important activity.

*Prepared for parents by SAY San Diego's PASS Project
Funded by the Edna McConnell Clark Foundation*