The Organized Student: Teaching Children The Skills For Success In School And Beyond
Synopsis

A must-read for parents, The Organized Student contains hands-on strategies for teaching your disorganized child how to organize for success in middle school and high school, with special tips for kids with ADD/ADHD and learning disorders. The overstuffed backpack, the missing homework, the unused planner, the test he didn’t know about. Sound familiar? When the disorganized child meets the departmentalized structure of middle school, everything can fall apart. Even the academically successful child will start to falter if she misses deadlines, loses textbooks, or can’t get to class on time. This practical book is full of hands-on strategies for helping parents identify and teach organizational skills. Educational consultant Donna Goldberg has developed these methods by working with hundreds of students and in this book she provides: - Assessments to gather information about your child’s learning style, study habits, and school requirements - Guidelines for taming that overstuffed binder and keeping it under control - PACK—a four-step plan for purging and reassembling a backpack or locker - Instructions for organizing an at-home work space for the child who studies at a desk or the child who studies all over the house - Ways to help your child graduate from telling time to managing time - Special tips for kids with learning disabilities and kids who have two homes... and more The Organized Student is a must for any parent who has heard the words, “I can’t find my homework!”

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews Â (84 customer reviews)
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Customer Reviews

I especially like that that the author describes more than one way to get organized, and the methods
are not complicated. I've observed that schools (& parents) tend to attack lack of organization with even more folders, binders, etc., as if adding to the quantity will somehow reduce chaos. The initial thing I was looking for was advice on a workable planner for my middle school son. The author recommends one that has 2 pages for all 7 days of the week, and lists subjects down the side, so that the student can easily see patterns in assignments as well as a weekly view. The author writes over a teacher planner, as the proper layout is impossible to find. I ended up using this model to create one of our own using a page layout program (MS Word) & getting it wirebound at an office supply store ($6). The author describes a simple yet very effective way to set up a ring binder system for keeping & filing papers & notes. However, ring binders can be awkward for some students: left-handers, those who must cope with small desks in class, or those who find binders hard to work with in general. The alternative system involves a portfolio with divided pockets to hold papers by subject; these are later filed into a binder or tote box at home. Either way, the student must "own" his system in order to make it work.

There are other very valuable chapters on organizing lockers, desks at home, and filing old papers. This book is an extremely valuable resource for parents and students, and I discovered it just in time.

Update, 11/8/11: My now high school senior son has been using his planner & filing system every year with great success. He gets a new planner every semester for class changes & to make it a bit thinner.

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