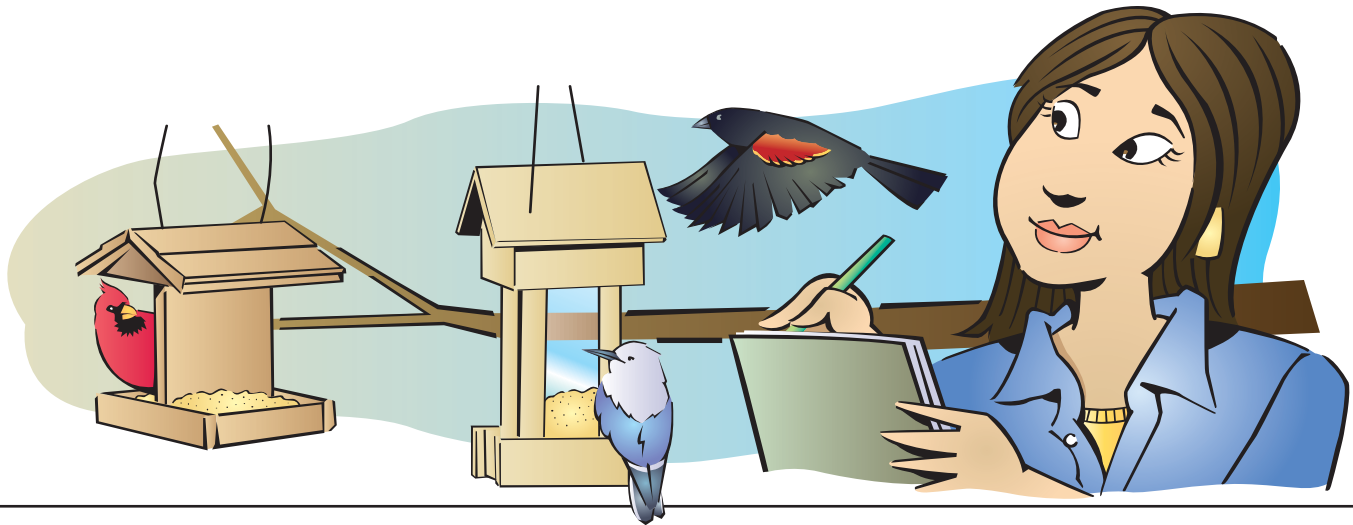


# Parent Pointers

## Calendar

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THE PARENT INSTITUTE®

### Parent Pointers

Calendar

Middle School  
**Parents**  
*still make the difference!*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>December</b>						
		<b>1</b> Teach your child about empathy. Help her think about how others feel.	<b>2</b> Suggest that your child write a descriptive story. Have her include lots of details.	<b>3</b> Have each family member think of two nice things to do for others today. Later, share what you did.	<b>4</b> Make sure your child has plenty of writing supplies for stories, notes and letters.	<b>5</b> Make popcorn and watch a movie with your child. Afterward, talk about the movie.
<b>6</b> Ask bookstores to notify you of book signings. Take your child when the book topic interests her.	<b>7</b> Before your child buys something, encourage her to compare prices and return policies.	<b>8</b> Give your child a test-taking tip: Answer everything you know first, then go back to difficult questions.	<b>9</b> Keep nutritious foods handy at home, such as sliced vegetables and fresh fruit.	<b>10</b> Use math-related terms in conversation, such as <i>parallel</i> and <i>intersect</i> .	<b>11</b> Don't let your child watch TV while studying, no matter how much he wants to.	<b>12</b> Peer pressure can be positive. Encourage group activities like sports and volunteering.
<b>13</b> Suggest that your child write a letter to a relative, author, lawmaker or celebrity.	<b>14</b> Make a weekly TV schedule with your child. This reduces wasted time in front of the set.	<b>15</b> Ask your child to take photos during holiday events. This may build her interest in participating.	<b>16</b> Talk with your child about her report card. Ask what went into getting each grade.	<b>17</b> As your child becomes more responsible, switch from a weekly to a monthly allowance.	<b>18</b> Is your child's favorite TV show on during homework time? Have him record it and watch it later.	<b>19</b> Take advantage of time in the car with your child. You can talk privately without interruption.
<b>20</b> Look through the classifieds with your child. Which jobs seem interesting? Why?	<b>21</b> Encourage your child to read a biography, such as one about Helen Keller.	<b>22</b> Talk about ways to handle negative peer pressure, such as standing up for yourself or using humor.	<b>23</b> Give the gift of time to your child. Time with parents is more important to kids than material things.	<b>24</b> As your daughter matures physically, remember that it's normal and healthy for her to gain weight.	<b>25</b> Taking practice tests can improve grades. Encourage your child to use this study method.	<b>26</b> Talk about TV ads with your child. What sales techniques do they use?
<b>27</b> When arguing with your child, focus more on solutions than blame.	<b>28</b> Do everyday things with your child, such as washing dishes, to gain more time together.	<b>29</b> Help your child open a bank account. Explain how to keep track of withdrawals and deposits.	<b>30</b> Talk about people you admire who have shown integrity. What did they do?	<b>31</b> Make individual and family resolutions for the new year. How will you reach your goals?	<b>2009</b>	