

Lesson 5: Making a Homework Plan (Using Student Planners)

Learning Target: Students practice time management, planning and prioritizing skills using their student planners

Materials/Preparation:

- Add to the “Homework Habits” Chart: Use your planner to make a homework plan each day.

Steps:

1. Connection to previous lesson: “Yesterday we came up with lists of motivators to help us get started on our homework. Today we’re going to learn how to make a roadmap or homework plan to help us get our homework done efficiently.”
2. Ask for a few volunteers to share how they typically decide which assignment to work on first, second, third, etc.
3. Explain how creating a roadmap, or a plan, for how they’ll complete all of their homework can make it feel less stressful and help them waste less time.
4. Walk students through the steps of filling out the planner. Note: Don’t rush this—many students do not understand how to effectively record assignments. (If possible, use a document camera to fill out a sample planner as a model)
 - a. Explain that all homework assignments that were given that day should be recorded for that day. (Example: A language arts assignment that was assigned on September 15th should be recorded under September 15th). Projects deadlines and dates of quizzes and tests should be recorded under the date they are due and then reminders to work on them should be recorded under the dates leading up to the deadline.
5. Model how to make a homework plan using their planner.
 - a. Look through all of the assignments you have recorded as well as any upcoming deadlines.
 - b. If there are any assignments you do not fully understand, ask a classmate or make plans to meet with the teacher during extra help.
 - c. Make a note under assignments of any special materials you need to remember to bring home. Some students who have a particularly hard time remembering what to bring home might want to jot down a quick checklist of items they will need that they can then use as they pack their backpacks at the end of the day.
 - d. Decide on an order for completing the assignments. Consider your energy/focus levels, if you like to ease into homework with an easy assignment or prefer to get the harder assignments out of the way first, etc. Mark the assignment you will complete first with a #1, the assignment you’ll complete second with a #2, etc.
 - e. Estimate how long you think each assignment will take and jot down the time you plan to start the assignment next to it. This will help you make sure you have given yourself enough time to complete everything.
 - f. Consider upcoming deadlines and plan which tasks you will work on that day.

- g. Select a motivator from your Motivators handout and enter it at the bottom of that day's column. You'll have this activity to look forward to when you finish all of your assignments!
- h. When you finish an assignment, review it, and return it to your backpack. Then cross it off in your planner!