



Think It; Ink It

Description:

As students progress through their school career, each new year may seem to them busier and more hectic than the last, with homework, exams, sports, after school activities, maybe a part-time job, and at-home chores, to name just a few of students' activities. Regular use of student agendas can help to alleviate the stress of trying to remember (let alone juggle!) their commitments. This activity will bring home the value of writing down important school and personal tasks.

Objectives:

Students will:

- understand the value of writing down what's important to them
- be motivated to record school work and personal tasks in their agendas

Procedure:

1. At the beginning of a class, tell your students that you are going to write down ten items on the board or overhead. Whoever remembers them—in correct order—at the end of the class will win a prize (whatever you can supply).

Note: emphasize that no one can write them down! Allow them to see the items for approximately 30 seconds.
2. At the end of class, ask for the list of items.
3. Reward anyone who can remember each item in the exact order, asking them how they did it. Since this will not be the majority, suggest the development of one habit that will help them sharpen their memories: "If you think it, ink it."
4. Hand out the facing activity sheet. Discuss the recording tips, and give students a homework assignment for practice.



WEDNESDAY JANUARY

6 DAY

- *Socials wksht. #2 (due Jan. 8)*
- *Eng.: rd. The Mockingbird (due Jan. 10)*
- *Math pg. 45: do questions 1-5 (7:30-8)*
- *Dad's birthday Buy gift!*
- *Basketball practice after school*

Record all homework tasks on the date they're assigned.

Make a note of the due date.

Don't forget extra-curricular activities! They're part of your schedule.

Write down personal tasks - they're important too!

Recording Tips:

- check out your agenda's section on time management for more details.
- be sure to record not only the assignment, but also when it is due.
- record daily homework tasks on the date they are assigned—that way you always have a record of what was assigned every day.
- record assignments as soon as they are given...that way you won't forget!
- if you have no assignment for a particular class, write the name of the class (Eng., Bio., Sci.) and NH for No Homework. Consider reading ahead for this class tonight.
- it's a really good idea to include an estimate of the time it will take you to complete each task.

For tests and long-term projects:

- record the assignment both on the date assigned and on the date due.
- a reminder in between dates would also be helpful. Consider scheduling specific intermediate steps.



Record today's homework!

Knowledge itself is power. - Francis Bacon