



Handy Handouts®

Free informational handouts for educators, parents, and students

Just a Little Bit Longer

by Lindsey Wegner, M.A., CCC-SLP

As the school year winds down, your child might be feeling the increase of excitement for summer break and the decline of motivation to stay studious. It seems to happen every year; a child starts off the school year with a bang, eager to learn as much as he or she can; however, as the school year comes to a close and summer approaches, the child often struggles to stay focused on his or her studies. Below are some tips that might help your child get to the end of the school year and go into summer without hurting his or her grades in the process.



- **Make a List** – Have your child make a daily list of what tasks he or she needs to accomplish by the end of the day.



- **Keep a Calendar** – Keeping a calendar will help your child avoid procrastinating, which often happens with end-of-the-year projects. Planning ahead to see what's expected of your child may make it easier for him or her to stay on track with projects and tasks.



- **Put Down Your Phone** – Set aside time for homework and projects and make sure your child puts away his or her phone as well. It may not be enough to just place it on silent on the table—you may have to physically remove the phone from the room. This way, your child will not be tempted to pick it up or glance at it and become distracted from completing his or her tasks. This is a good tip for any time of the year while completing homework; however, as the end of the year approaches, your child may be even more glued to a phone while making summer plans with friends.



- **Don't Be Afraid to Ask for Help** – The end of the school year is when teachers tend to speed up their lessons as they are wrapping everything up. Your child might quickly become overwhelmed and feel as though he or she is not absorbing all the material. Find out if your school is offering any tutoring, or even schedule a meeting with your child's teacher to find out what is expected of him or her until the end of the year.





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(cont.)

• **Watch Your Child's Grades**

– Remember to watch your child's grades consistently through the end of the school year. That way, if they start to slip, you can take measures to improve them before it's too late.



• **Be Aware of Attendance**

– Make sure your child continues to attend school regularly. The end of the school year is not the best time to be absent, since teachers are wrapping things up and assigning last-minute tasks and projects.



• **Keep Your Eye on the Ball**

– Constantly remind your child that the end of the school year is near. It might help to make a calendar with a countdown to the last day of school. It's important for children to know that the goal is to make it all the way to the end.



No matter how your child stays motivated until the end of the school year, make sure you realize he or she has worked hard all year and fun times are ahead. It's important for kids to relax and always enjoy learning so hang in there ... the end is near!

Resources:

Hackl, Katie. (March 24, 2016). 10 Ways to Stay Motivated through the End of the School Year. Retrieved from <https://www.hercampus.com/school/uw-stout/10-ways-stay-motivated-through-end-school-year>.

Kochan, Sarah. (March 16, 2016). 5 Ways to Stay Motivated During the Last Months of School. Retrieved from <https://iachievelearning.com/2016/03/5-ways-to-stay-motivated-during-the-last-months-of-school/>

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