



Read to remember

To succeed in school, you need to understand and remember what you read.

- ▶ Before you start to read a textbook assignment, survey the text. Read the **bold** and *italic* words, the introduction, section headings, summary, and chapter review questions.
- ▶ After you're finished reading, do a quick review of what you've read. *Reviewing is the key to remembering.*

Be a good test taker

To do well on any test, you need to study enough to know the material. You also need to be a smart test taker.

- ▶ Before you answer any questions, look over the entire test and make a plan. Decide how much time you'll spend on each section.
- ▶ Don't spend too much time on difficult questions. Put a dot or light check mark by any question you want to come back to.
- ▶ If you aren't sure of an answer, go with your first instinct.
- ▶ Check all of your answers, even the ones you know are right.

What Kind of Student Are You?

Put a check mark in the boxes that best describe you.

	Almost Always	Sometimes	Hardly Ever
1. I do all of my homework.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. I participate in discussions.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. I get along with my teachers.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. I can find information online.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. I ask and answer questions.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. I take notes in class.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. I ask for help when I need it.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. I am happy with my grades.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Give yourself 2 points for each **Almost Always**, 1 point for **Sometimes**, and 0 for **Hardly Ever**.

Your Score _____

15 - 16 points – You are a good student. You are probably doing very well in school.

11 - 14 points – You are in the OK range. You could try a little harder in your classes.

0 - 10 points – Your grades are probably on the low side. If you work harder, your grades will improve, and you may even find that you like school more.



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Make Middle School Great!



Classroom Success

When you're successful in school, the people you care about are proud of you, school is more fun, and you feel good about yourself.

You don't need to be a genius to succeed in school. However, you do need to be organized, and you need to know how to study. You also need to know how to make the most of the time you spend in class.

If you ever need help or find yourself struggling in a class, talk to your teacher or see your counselor.

The following tips will help you become a better student, and get better grades!

Tips for Succeeding in Class

Be organized

Being organized saves you time and makes your day run smoother.

- ▶ Use a student planner to record assignments, quizzes, tests, activities, and appointments.
- ▶ Keep your locker and backpack neat and clean.
- ▶ Make To Do lists and cross things off as you complete them.
- ▶ Get everything organized for the next day before you go to bed.



Learn in class

If you make the most of the time you spend in class, you have a lot less to learn on your own.

- ▶ Be in class every day—alert and ready to learn.
- ▶ Keep your attention focused on what's being taught.
- ▶ Have all of your homework done.
- ▶ Participate in class discussions. Ask and answer questions.
- ▶ Use any free time you have to start on homework.
- ▶ Ask for help when you need it.

Study smart

Students who study smart spend less time studying, and yet they get better grades.

- ▶ Find a place to study that's quiet, well-lit, and comfortable.
- ▶ Turn off the music and TV, and silence your phone. Focus on the work you need to do.
- ▶ Before you start your homework, make a plan. Decide what you want to get done, and the order you're going to do it.
- ▶ Break large assignments and projects down into smaller parts.
- ▶ Do difficult assignments first, while you're still fresh and alert.

Take good class notes

Tests almost always cover material that's been presented in class, so it's important to have good notes to study from.

- ▶ Don't try to write everything down. Listen for the most important information and ideas.



- ▶ Leave spaces between topics and ideas.
- ▶ Use abbreviations to take notes faster.
- ▶ Highlight or underline important information.
- ▶ Go over your notes and rewrite anything that's confusing.