Secondary English

Monday, September 27, 2021

Make sure your working teen has time for schoolwork

Many high school students will be looking for part-time jobs during this school year. Jobs can have great benefits for teens, but they shouldn't interfere with students' school performance. Remember that school accounts for at least 30 hours each week (and an activity can add 10 more). Limit your teen's employment hours to 10 per week, and watch his grades. If they drop, he should cut back on work hours. School is your teen's main job.

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Tuesday, September 28, 2021 Share tips for finding friends

Teens sometimes think they'd have more friends if they were in the popular crowd. But to make friends, all they need to do is look for other kids who are seeking friendships, too. Encourage your teen to look for signs of openness, such as making room for someone to sit down. Then she can show interest by asking questions. "I always see you with that case. What instrument do you play?" Remind your teen that new friendships take time to grow.

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Wednesday, September 29, 2021

Help your teen make smart choices when dealing with peer pressure

Peer pressure can be both positive and negative. But all peer pressure requires kids to make a decision: "Should I do what others want me to do?" Discuss peer pressure with your teen. Ask, "How would you feel if you gave in?" Role-play ways to handle peer-pressure situations, such as by using humor. And stick to your rules and values. Your teen may test them, but you'll reinforce your message if you say "That is not OK."

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Thursday, September 30, 2021

Stop a tobacco habit before it starts

According to one survey, teens are most likely to begin smoking between the ages of 13 and 15. And the fact is that people who start smoking as teens also have a harder time quitting. Discuss the dangers of tobacco use in all its forms (including vaping) with your teen, and remind her that once she begins she may not be able to stop. Don't wait until your teen gets older before discouraging tobacco use. By then, it may be too late.

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Friday, October 1, 2021

Encourage next-level research

To do his best on big research projects, your teen should consider going beyond a quick online search. Encourage him to look for experts and other sources of information that may be cited in

newspaper or journal articles. Your teen could even contact a reporter. Many are happy to share information with students. The public affairs offices of universities, government agencies and businesses are also places your teen can find authorities in a variety of subjects to interview.

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Saturday, October 2, 2021

Talk to your teen about cybersafety

It can be a challenge to keep track of what your teen does online. But it's important to do. Although the internet is a great place for learning, it can also be dangerous. Talk to your teen about online safety. Make sure she knows you expect her to avoid sites with pornography or hate content. Remind her never to give out personal information online. And ask her to report unusual or inappropriate material to you.

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Sunday, October 3, 2021

When your teen is the teacher, learning sticks

As teens reach higher grades in school, parents are often unsure how to help with homework. One of the best ways is to ask your teen to teach you what he's learning. Ask him to show you how he works a math problem or tell you about a historic event. Sharing his knowledge can increase your teen's excitement about the material. And the more he shares it, the more likely he is to remember it.

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