

homeschoolguide

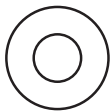
Teaching in a home environment allows for hundreds of teachable moments. Having an Action Student Agenda for your children will provide many opportunities for discussion, research, and time management. Time management is critical for student success. It will allow your homeschooled students to reach their potential to positively effect their own life **(I)**, their relationships **(Us)**, and the world around them **(All)**.

I • Us • All

We are each like a drop of water splashing into a pond. Our actions cause concentric ripples in the world. A helping hand or a smile from one person can ripple through their **relationships** to the **relationships** of others, and so on; until the **world** has changed. The actions of the individual may seem insignificant, but can alter the **world**.

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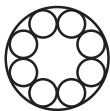
School Datebooks



I: Every positive action begins with **Self (I)**, when we discover our ability to effect change and take the initiative to act.



Us: Our impact grows through our **Relationships (Us)**, where we find encouragement as well as challenges.



All: The actions we take ultimately affect the **World (All)** around us, where we realize our greatest power and make a lasting difference.

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Look for the **I, Us, and All** symbols in your planner and supplements. They mark sections and ideas to help make positive ripples in your **self, relationships, and world**.

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Action Student Planners at Home

“ Today an estimated 1.6-2.0 million children are being taught at home by their parents. ” *

“ By Grade 8, the average home school student performs four grade levels above the national average. ” **

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Those of us who choose to homeschool our children do so for a variety of reasons: religious conviction, social environment, academic concerns, special needs, or schedule flexibility are some of those concerns. Fortunately, the homeschool option is far more widely accepted and respected than it was three decades ago.

Parents have worked tirelessly to organize their efforts. They have organized, developed academically sound curricula, and succeeded in doing an excellent job of preparing their children for a successful life.

Action Publishing, in creating its student planners, has dedicated itself to being one of the only student planner publishers to develop high-quality academic content perfect for the homeschooled student. In an Action Student Planner, each month begins with an inspiring and motivating profile of a young achiever; someone who is making a positive difference in the world at an early age. These profiles are

perfect for discussion and further inquiry.

We have also included QR codes with links that will enhance the achiever profile and provide study tips, time management, and academic content. Also included are Tips and Tools, age appropriate vocabulary words, and plenty of space

for your student to schedule, plan, set goals, and journal. Knowing the important career potential of the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, the content of your Action Student Planner is written with a strong emphasis on those academic areas.

As a homeschool teacher, you will appreciate knowing that your children are using the best homeschool planner on the market.

Action Student Planners are visually beautiful; full of professional photos that present the world as the colorful, exciting, and varied place that it is.

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Special Homeschool Edition Content:

- A monthly book log
- A page which teaches and reinforces Roman numerals
- A page which teaches and reinforces multiplication
- A graphic presentation of the important life skills of communication, collaboration, critical thinking, information literacy, initiative, and time management
- A bonus 20-page supplement of clear, concise information and advice about personal finance (**Achieve**, **Aspire**, and **Advance** only)
- A 5-page implementation guide for you, which outlines the contents of your Action Student Agenda and how to use it with your children

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As a homeschooling parent you are certain to appreciate the contribution our planners can make in your children's academic lives. We would like to make a positive difference for you and your children!

Here are a few ways to use your Action Student Planner in your home setting:

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Tips for Using Your Action Agenda with Elementary Students:

- Our **Amaze** student planner is designed specifically for young learners. It is the perfect solution for teaching the rudiments of time management. You can see it on our website: <http://www.actionplannerpas.com>.
- A student planner is the perfect way to introduce the essential concepts of time management and accountability to young learners.
- Show your children how to use a paper clip or page marker (we make heavy-duty page markers) to mark the current weekly spread.
- Your students' Action Student Planner is your vehicle for student/parent communication. If all communication exists in one place it provides an excellent reference and timeline for both you and your child.
- Introduce your child to the idea of sketching or journaling, even a brief sentence daily, in their planners. This log of their young life will be precious to both of you in years to come.
- A planner is a brilliant way to introduce the idea of goals and goal-setting to young students. Want to be or do something? Write it down; then write down the things you will need to do to get there.

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Tips for Using your Action Agenda with Middle School Students:

- The Action **Achieve** and **Aspire** are the perfect solution for middle school time management and organization. You can see them on our website at <http://www.actionagendas.com>.
- Middle school is an emotionally tumultuous time for students. Keeping their mind on academics is a challenge for you, their teacher, and for youngsters who are on the roller coaster ride of adolescence. Teach them to use and depend on their planners as a consistent tool for organization.
- You can model using a planner by having a planner yourself and using it in front of your children. What they observe in you is tremendously influential. You can find our calendar year non-academic planners at our website.
- When you assign homework, have everyone get his or her planner out and write it down while you're talking about it.
- Use the academic content included in your Action planner for daily/weekly warm-up activities. The Achiever Profiles, Weekly Tips and Tools, Life Skills, and suggested research activities can all spark a lively conversation and teachable moment. By doing this you will get the planner into your students' hands and can take it one step further by asking them to look over their weekly spread and make sure they've included all important assignments, projects, or deadlines.
- Encourage your children to use their agenda for journaling one or two sentences a day. It will engage them in a personal literary experience, improve writing skills, and, in the future, provide a window into their teenage years.
- Help your homeschooled student use his or her planner as a goal-setting tool. Setting personal and academic goals is a vital component for success. Thinking about and writing down the steps to reach a goal will make your students flexible strategists and give them more control over their own destiny.

Tips for Using your Action Agenda with High School Students:

- Action Publishing developed the **Achieve** and the **Advance** for high school and college students. They both contain the same valuable academic content with convenient size options. You can see them both on our website, <http://www.actionagendas.com>.
- Even high school students need to be motivated to use their planners. Because their planner will be a vital tool to reduce the stress of each hectic

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day, show them that planner use will empower them to take ownership of his or her independence by taking control of her schedule and her time.

- When you assign homework, have your children get their planners out and write assignments down as you're assigning them.
- Use the content included in your Action Student Agenda for a daily warm-up. You'll be able to make sure that each child has his or her planner and reinforce its use.
- Help your children use their planners as a goal-setting tool. Setting personal and academic goals is a vital component for success. Thinking about and writing down the steps to reach a goal will make your children flexible strategists and give them more control over their own destiny.
- Do you have procrastinators in your household? Show them how to use their planner to break down tasks into manageable deadlines. This will greatly reduce stress and prevent last-minute panic.
- Positive reinforcement works with high schoolers, too! A little bit of praise may go a long way to encourage planner use. Praise students for using their planner and notice when their planner is out on their desk and in use. If students begin to notice and understand how time management improves their life, it will become a dependable habit.
- A high school student's planner should include more than just homework assignments. It should include all of their extra-curricular activities, long-term projects, social engagements, and other activities. A one-sentence-a-day journaling habit can be strongly encouraged. When your child begins to see that his or her planner contains the "life at a glance" they will more readily embrace a powerfully positive lifetime habit.

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Go to hslda.org to find your state's homeschooling requirements and anything else you want to know about homeschooling.

References:

* Brian Rey, *Worldwide Guide to Homeschooling*, Broadman & Holman, 2002.

** Lawrence Rudner, *Scholastic Achievement and Demographic Characteristics of Home School Students in 1998*, Educational Policy Analysis Archives.