



Age Appropriate Organizing – Rhone McCall
Let's Get Things Straight
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It is never too early to start!

Baby (birth–1 year)

- Infants can fit into the family's routine through consistent sleeping and napping habits
- Babies can learn to play and entertain themselves while parents are cooking, cleaning or doing other household chores

Toddler (1-3 years)

- Pick up toys in a small area and put away
- Put books on a shelf and clothes in hamper

Preschool-Kindergarten (3-5 years)

- Dress self with help
- Make bed daily with help
- Carry belongings to and from car
- Help set table and clear dishes
- Practice good telephone habits

Elementary Grades (1st -3rd grades)

- Make bed before school
- Put away own things (backpack, lunch box, coat)
- Establish personal habits (wash hands, brush teeth, bathing, comb hair)
- Empty dishwasher regularly
- Write own thank you notes

Upper Grades (4th-5th grades)

- Put clean laundry away
- Practice music/sports on own
- Use lists or notes to remember chores/assignments
- Keep room neat

Middle School

- Be more self-reliant with homework, activities
- Clean own bathroom and room (including closets & drawers)
- Vacuum and dust
- Perform odd jobs such as lawn mowing or babysitting

High School

- Do own laundry and put away
- Manage own cash flow/allowance/expenses
- Fix 1 to 2 meals per week and clean up
- Budget for own expenses such as dining out, entertainment and clothing
- Prepare for college/to be out on their own

(Information source: "Ages & Stages of Getting Children Organized" by Marcia Ramslund)