

# Tips for Success in KAP and KAP/GT Classes



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## Why KAP



# KAP is an Advanced Curriculum



- Elementary Curriculum (1 option)
  - One-size-fits-all
  - Everyone learning the same objectives
- Junior High Curriculum (2 options)
  - Academic Classes (typical 6th grader)
  - KAP (Katy Advanced Placement) Classes
    - Dives deeper into content
    - Critical thinking skills
    - Sophisticated class discussions
    - More objectives (Math)
      - 6th grade KAP Math (6th & 7th grade objectives)
      - 7th grade KAP Math (7th & 8th grade objectives)
      - 8th grade–Algebra I (HS Credit)

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## Why KAP

# KAP is Low Risk in Junior High



- Perfect time to try a more rigorous curriculum
  - What subject(s) are they interested in?
  - What subject(s) do they excel at?
- Find the right pacing
  - All KAP Courses **OR**
  - Combination of KAP and Academic courses
  - Go BIG! Take a chance!
- No GPA!!!
  - High School Credit Courses only (Algebra I, Geometry, Art, Spanish)
  - Grade Point Average (used for college admissions)
  - In High School, KAP, KAP/GT, AP, and AP/GT classes are all weighted on a 5.0 scale (A= 5 points). Academic classes are weighted on a 4.0 scale.



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## Why KAP

# KAP Classes—Preparatory for HS



- Junior High KAP is the time to build muscles needed for success in High School AP courses:
  - Organization
  - Productive study habits
  - Time Management
  - Goal setting & planning
  - List making
  - Research & presentation skills
  - Note taking



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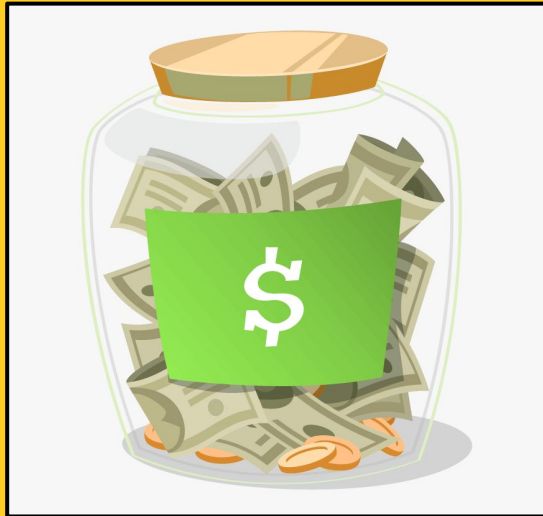
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## Why KAP

# High School and College



- Advanced Placement (AP) courses
  - Typically Junior and Senior Years
  - AP Exam can give you college credit
  - Save \$\$\$ on college tuition!
- Start NOW to prepare for success in High School and College



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## KAP Contract



# Why KAP & Campus Commitment

- Campus support (interventions) for KAP students
  - Build Stamina
  - Help with Organization and assignment completion
  - Increase content knowledge
  - Bridge to Advanced Academic Curriculum

### AP/KAP Course Commitment

Katy ISD recognizes the value of student participation in advanced academic coursework and encourages students to graduate from high school with at least one advanced academic course credit such as Advanced Placement. Participation in advanced academic courses is a foundation of college readiness. Students who participate are more likely to complete a bachelor's degree in college and typically have higher college GPAs (*Hargrove, Godin and Dodd, 2007; Dodd and Keng, 2008*). The intent of this commitment is to maximize each student's potential for success in AP and KAP courses.

### Choosing Advanced Academics

KAP and AP courses are designed to challenge students beyond grade-level academic courses and prepare them for success in future advanced coursework. Students may require additional encouragement and support from both family and campus to be successful in advanced academics.

### Campus Commitment

The campus commits to advanced academics by communicating the value of advanced coursework, recruiting students with potential for success, encouraging student commitment, and supporting advanced academic instruction. In the event that a student wishes to drop or appears to be struggling in AP or KAP a conference should be held with the student to determine intervention necessary and next steps.

## Student Commitment



- Take initiative
  - Check grades regularly
  - Talk to teacher if there are questions
- Persevere!
  - Ask for help
  - Attend tutorials
  - Create a study group



### Student Commitment

The student commits to advanced academics by recognizing the long-term benefits of participation and seeking assistance when needed. As a student enrolled in an AP or KAP course:

- I understand that advanced academic courses may seem challenging at first and initial grades may not reflect later in the course.
- In the event that I encounter difficulties with the course content, I will conference with my teacher about my progress and attend recommended tutorials.
- I understand that course changes will be contingent on space availability, extenuating circumstances, the teacher's appraisal of my potential for success in the course, and the timing of the request.
- I understand that successful completion of an AP exam can yield college credit.
- I understand that participation in advanced coursework prepares me well for college, increases my chances of finishing a college degree in four years, and earning a higher college GPA.

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## KAP Contract

# Teacher Commitment

- Teachers have 150+ students in their classes
  - Give them the benefit of the doubt
  - Reach out in a polite way to ask for clarification
  - Try and resolve with teacher before escalating
  - Allow 24-48 hours for a response



### Teacher Commitment

The teacher commits to advanced academics by encouraging student participation and success, planning for student learning, providing rigorous, quality instruction, and offering assistance for struggling students. As a teacher of an AP or KAP course:

- I will teach the course following the curriculum developed by Katy ISD and as authorized by College Board (AP Courses).
- I will provide instruction that prepares students for the next level advanced academic course.
- I will provide quality instruction at an advanced level and give ample opportunities for students to be successful.
- I will assign work that is meaningful and relevant to the required learning goals.
- I know that students are enrolled in many other courses and that workload for this course must not be unreasonably time consuming. I will provide appropriate tutorial opportunities for students who have difficulty with course content.
- I will conference with students who are encountering difficulties in the course and provide appropriate tutorial opportunities prior to recommending a schedule change.



## Parent Commitment

- Encourage child to attend tutorials
- Support organizational system
- Check in with child weekly
  - Help prioritize upcoming assignments
  - Support study skills
- Teach and Model for your child!



### Parent Commitment

The parent commits to advanced academics by supporting student learning in the advanced academic course; by supporting teacher efforts to provide rigorous, quality instruction; and by valuing the learning that occurs in the advanced academic course. As a parent of a student enrolled in an AP or KAP course:

- I will encourage my child to be prepared for class each day.
- I understand that advanced academics courses may seem challenging at first and initial grades may reflect later in the course.
- If my child encounters difficulties with the course content, I will expect my child to conference with the teacher and attend recommended tutorials.
- Prior to initiating a petition for my child to exit the course, I will contact the teacher for input.
- I understand that schedule changes will be contingent on space availability, extenuating circumstances, the teacher's appraisal of my potential for success in the course, and the timing of the request.

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# Organize

## LESSON 1 | Organization

- Options
- Student's choice
- Evaluate/reflect
  - Keep
  - Change
- Clean out backpack
  - Weekly (if needed) OR
  - Every progress report/report card (3 weeks)
- Folders at home
  - File tests and quizzes
  - Study to cumulative test or finals



HOW TO  
**ORGANIZE**  
FOR SCHOOL

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# Organize

## 3-ring Binders

### Pros:

- See papers
- Use dividers for classes
- Sturdy
- Different sizes (1", 2", etc)

### Cons:

- Hole punch required
- Papers tear
- Bulky
- Price



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# Organize

## Pocket Folders

### Pros:

Plastic folders are sturdy  
Color coordinate classes  
Thin/not bulky  
Price  
Themed

### Cons:

Paper folders fall apart  
(use plastic ones)  
Prongs are hard to use  
Papers can fall out  
Only 2 pockets



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## Organize



# Accordion Folder/Expandable



### Pros:

Zipper—nothing falls out  
Sections for each  
period + extra  
Quickly stow papers

### Cons:

Pull papers out to see  
them  
Might put in wrong slot  
Price



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## Organize

# 1 Homework Folder

### Pros:

ALL HW in 1 place  
Price

### Cons:

Papers can fall out  
Easy to overlook in  
backpack



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# Organize

## Spiral Notebooks

### Pros:

Can color coordinate  
with folders

Price

Themed

### Cons:

Papers tear out

Annoying paper edge

Nowhere to store loose  
papers



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# Organize

## Mix and Match systems!



Supply Bag



Science Binder



ELA, Math,  
Social Studies,  
Band



Homework  
Folder



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## Organize

# Evaluate and Revise!



- Check in with child
  - What is working?
  - What needs to be modified?
- 1st Six weeks of school—check in/clean out backpack weekly
- After that, clean out backpack
  - Every 3 weeks (at Progress Report and Report)
  - Purge papers that you don't need
  - File tests/quizzes in folder at home
  - Only keep current work in backpack
  - Restock supplies



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## Prioritize

### REPORT CARD

ENGLISH B+

MATH A-

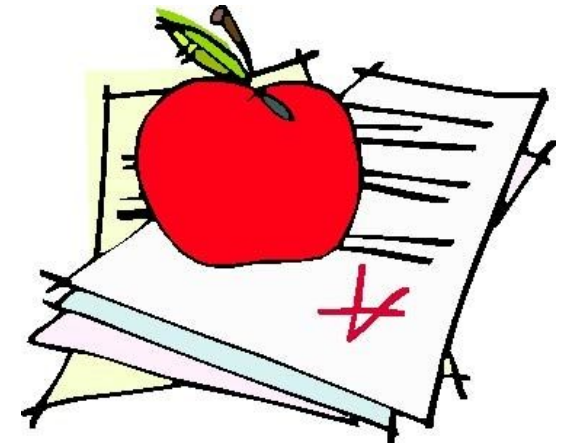
HISTORY B

SCIENCE A+

## Grades

### Junior High and High School: 6 week grading periods

- UIL eligibility
- Every 3 weeks
  - Progress Report **OR**
  - Report Card
- A LOT of graded work
- Likely to have a major or minor grade (or both) **every week** (in each academic subject)
- Check HAC regularly! (you and your child)



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# Prioritize

# Home Access Center (HAC)



Welcome to



Welcome to the Katy ISD Home Access Center!

The Home Access Center will be unavailable Friday, July 22 starting at 6 AM until midnight Sunday, July 24 for Maintenance.

[Frequently Asked Questions \(ENGLISH\)](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions \(SPANISH\)](#)

[Accessing High School Student Transcript](#)

If you do not know your username or password, or need to update it, please visit the [Katy ISD Password Self-Service Tool](#)

If you are still experiencing issues, please review the FAQ documentation. If you need further assistance, please visit [Family Technology Resources](#) and follow the instructions.

User Name

Password

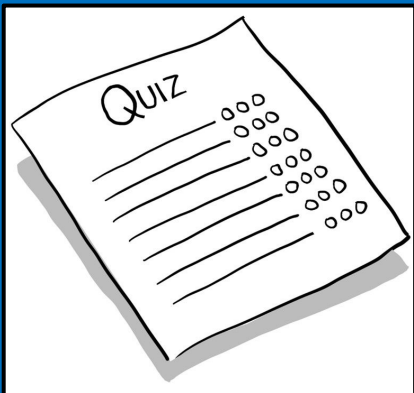
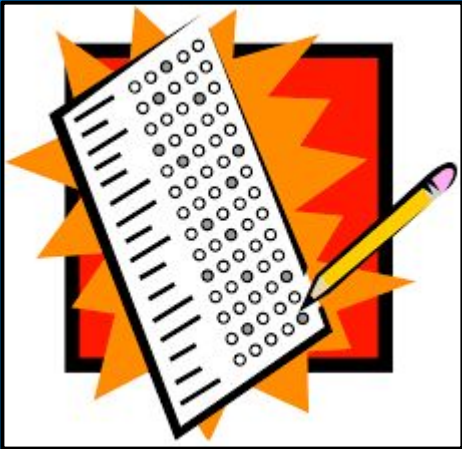
Sign In

The screenshot shows the Katy ISD website with a red navigation bar. The HAC icon is circled in red. The main banner features the text: "POWER UP FOR BACK TO SCHOOL! ONLINE ENROLLMENT WILL REOPEN THURSDAY, JULY 28." Below the banner is a computer monitor displaying the "Enrollment" logo. A green arrow points from the HAC icon to the login form on the right.



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## Prioritize



## Grades-3 types

**Major**—tests, big projects, writing (essays)

**Minor**—quizzes, projects, science labs, writing projects, DLA

**Other**—homework, classwork, worksheets

### 6th grade

Major—45%

Minor—40%

Other—15%

### 7th grade

Major—50%

Minor—35%

Other—15%

### 8th grade

Major—55%

Minor—30%

Other—15%



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# Prioritize

A = \$900 or above

B = \$800-\$900

C = \$700-\$800



## Grades: Money Example



### Major (2+)

Test 1 – \$225 max

Test 2 – \$225 max

**TOTAL = \$450 max**



### Minor (4+)

Quiz 1 – \$100 max

Quiz 2 – \$100 max

Quiz 3 – \$100 max

Quiz 4 – \$100 max

**TOTAL = \$400 max**



### Other (6+)

Other 1 – \$25 max

Other 2 – \$25 max

Other 3 – \$25 max

Other 4 – \$25 max

Other 5 – \$25 max

Other 6 – \$25 max

**TOTAL = \$150 max**

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# Prioritize

## HAC Example 1

Major Grades: →

Minor Grades: →

Other Grades: →



0473B - 21 CHEM KAP B					Classwork Average 85	
Date Due	Date Assigned	Assignment		Category	Score	Total Points
05/16/2022		<a href="#">Quiz Thermo</a>	→	Minor	95.00	100.00
05/10/2022		<a href="#">quick Check Lessons 1-2</a>	→	Other	90.00	100.00
05/09/2022		<a href="#">Quick Activity</a>	→	Other	100.0	100.00
05/03/2022		<a href="#">TEST: Acids Base</a>	→	Major	75.00	100.00
04/28/2022		<a href="#">Lab: Titration Curves</a>	→	Minor	83.00	100.00
04/27/2022		<a href="#">QUIZ Acids and Bases Lessons 1-3</a>	→	Minor	76.00	100.00
04/21/2022		<a href="#">Acids Bases Practice 2</a>	→	Other	0.00	100.00
04/18/2022		<a href="#">Acids Bases Practice 1</a>	→	Other	97.00	100.00
04/13/2022		<a href="#">TEST: Solutions</a>	→	Major	96.00	100.00
04/12/2022		<a href="#">Lab: Molarity and Dilution</a>	→	Minor	93.00	100.00
04/11/2022		<a href="#">QUIZ 2 Solutions Lessons 5-6</a>	→	Minor	97.00	100.00

You will see due date, assignment name, category, score, total points, and classwork average (top right corner).

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# Prioritize

## HAC Example 2

- Check the Total Points value
  - Usually 100
  - Occasionally a different value
- **M** = missing work. Counted as 0. Can still be turned in (late).

0142B - 18 ENG 2 KAP B					Classwork Average 82	
Date Due	Date Assigned	Assignment	Category	Score	Total Points	
05/09/2022		<a href="#">NoC One-Pager</a>	Major	81.00	100.00	
05/06/2022		<a href="#">Vocab 14 Quiz</a>	Minor	88.00	100.00	
05/04/2022		<a href="#">STARM chart and paragraph</a>	Other	79.00	100.00	
05/02/2022		<a href="#">NOCRR #4</a>	Other	78.00	100.00	
04/29/2022		<a href="#">Vocab 13 Quiz</a>	Minor	76.00	100.00	
04/29/2022		<a href="#">#1 and #7 of One-Pager</a>	Minor	17.00	20.00	
04/25/2022		<a href="#">NOCRR #3</a>	Other	81.00	100.00	
04/22/2022		<a href="#">Vocab12 Quiz</a>	Minor	80.00	100.00	
04/20/2022		<a href="#">NOCRR #2</a>	Other	90.00	100.00	
04/12/2022		<a href="#">NOCRR #1</a>	Other	85.00	100.00	
04/11/2022	04/11/2022	<a href="#">1st Page Annotations</a>	Other	M	100.00	
04/11/2022		<a href="#">Book Check</a>	Other	M	100.00	



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## Prioritize

# How to help your child



- Check Canvas Often (at least weekly)
  - Determine if it's Major, Minor, Other
  - Help them plan out Major/Minor assignment
    - Break task into smaller parts
    - Plan which days to accomplish each part
  - Writing assignments need to be chunked
    - Brainstorm topic ideas
    - Outline paragraph by paragraph
  - Map out daily tasks
    - Make a list
    - **Must do** (3 or 4) vs what can wait (add to calendar)
    - Set timed expectations for each task
  - Frequent Check ins
    - Evaluate
    - Revise!



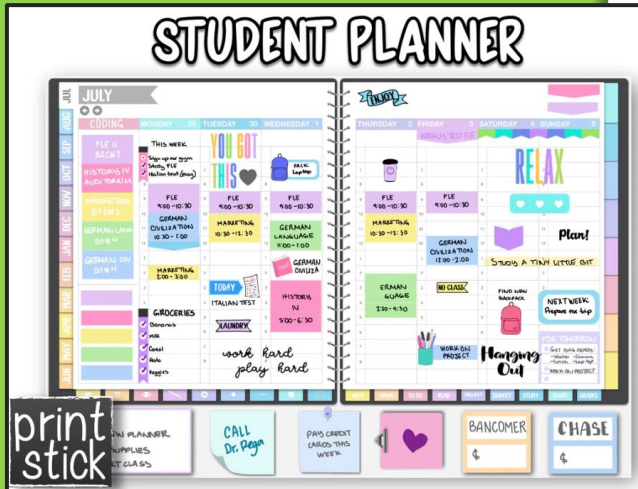


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# Resources

## Planner/Calendar

- Printed Calendar/Planner
  - Daily assignments
  - Fun design
- Canvas Calendar
  - Many teachers use
  - Students can add their own items
  - See all classes in one place
  - Color-code classes
- Cell Phone Calendar (Google, etc)
- Whatever they choose, YOU need to MODEL how to use it
  - Sit down with them to map assignments out
  - Follow up—check in to see how it's working
  - Modify/Change if it's not effective






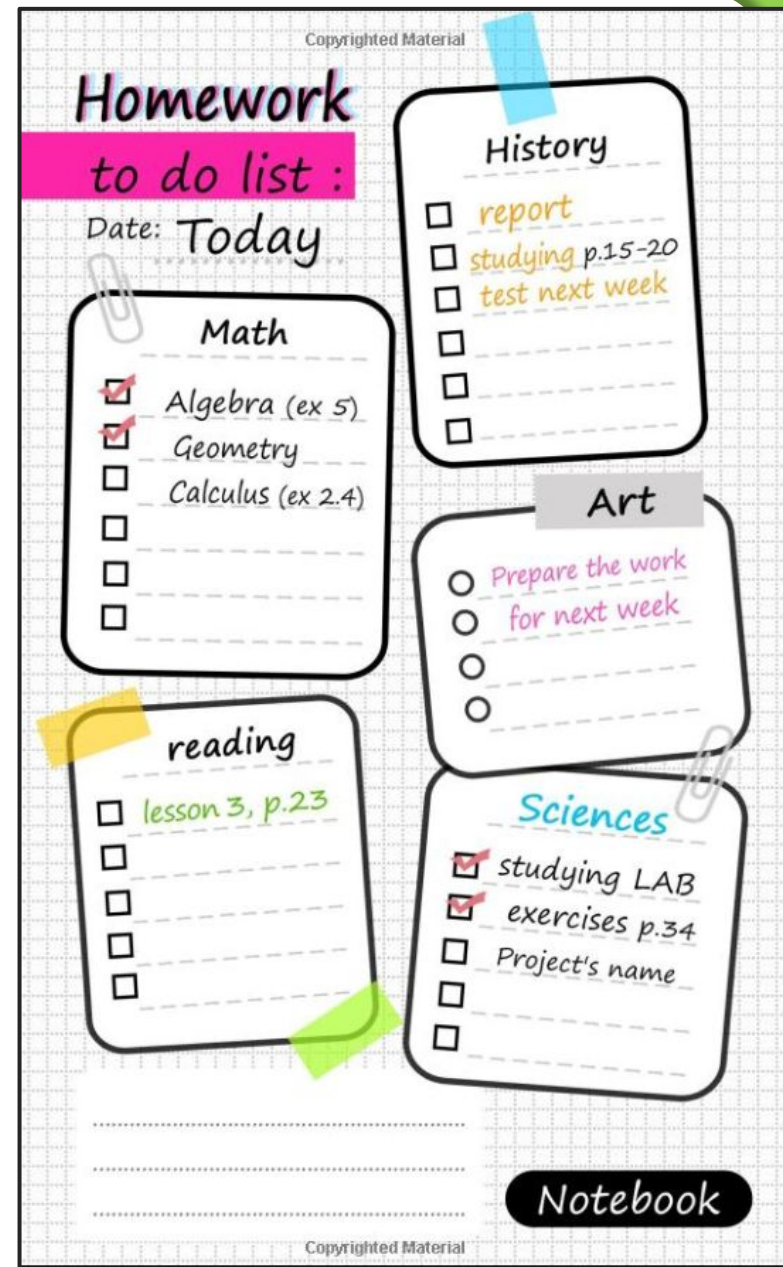
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## Resources



## List Making

- Post it notes
- List making Templates (online)
- List making writing pads
- Apps
  - Tasks (Google) 
  - TickTick (calendar with lists) 
  - Keep (Google) 
- Planners



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## Resources

# Homework Tips



- Create designated study space
  - Well lit
  - Comfortable
  - Big enough space to spread out materials
  - Supplies (pencils, paper, post-it notes, etc)
  - Teach child to keep it organized and free of clutter
  - Dry erase calendar and/or bulletin Board
- Turn off the tv and avoid distractions (pets, siblings, radio, etc)
- Set Specific rules about cell phones during study hours
- Consistency!
  - Allow 30 min to decompress after school
  - Schedule dinner at same time nightly
  - Set a regular time for HW (before or after dinner, depending on your schedule)



# Resources

## How to Study

- Must be TAUGHT!
- Read a chapter (or worksheet, packet, lab) and take notes
  - Jot down key words/phrases
  - Highlight important information (names, dates, key words, key concepts, etc)
  - [Cornell Notes](#)
- Skim material and then write a summary
- Study tables and charts
  - By Hand
  - [Quizlet](#)

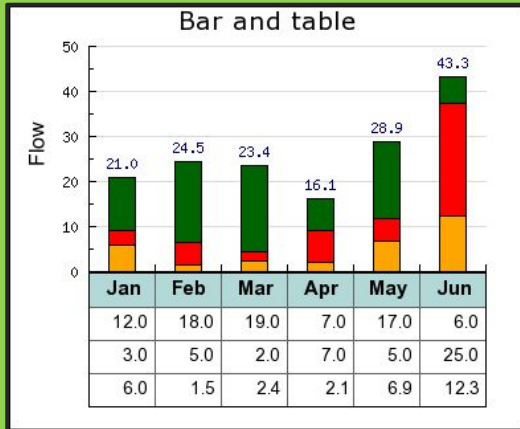


Table 3. Energy production by major source from 1960 to 1980<sup>1</sup>

Year	Total production (quad Btu)	Percent production			
		Coal	Petroleum	Natural gas	Other <sup>2</sup>
1960	41.5	26.1	36.0	34.0	3.9
1970	62.1	23.5	32.9	38.9	4.7
1980	64.8	28.7	28.2	34.2	8.9

<sup>1</sup> Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, *Annual Energy Review*  
<sup>2</sup> Includes hydropower, nuclear power, geothermal power, and others.

Different types of flash card

gapped sentences: She was in \_\_\_\_\_ of tears. floods

synonyms: very loud deafening

antonyms: eager to do something (opposite) reluctant

definitions: a place where you do science experiments laboratory

translations: tranquilo calm

pictures: [snowman drawing] snowman

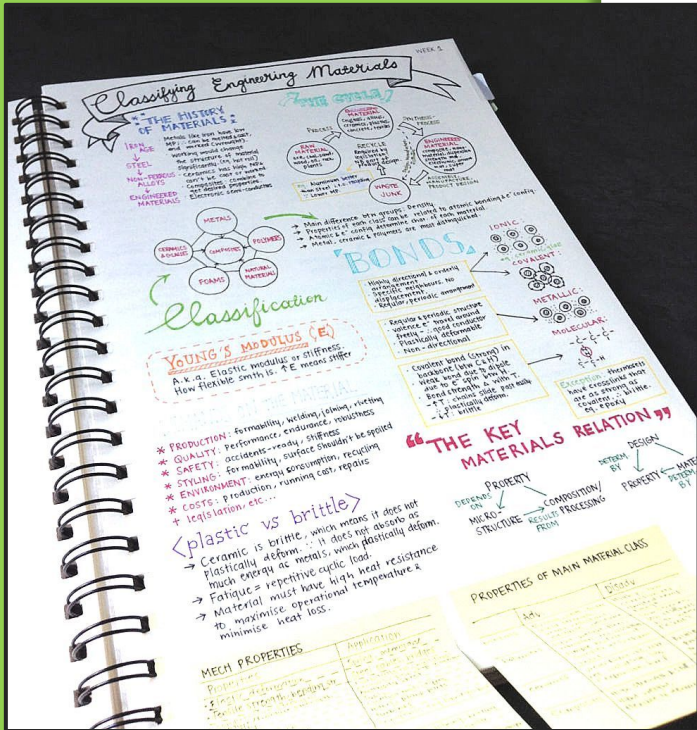


# Resources

## Study for Tests/Quizzes



- Pull out ALL notes/worksheets/labs/classwork/etc on the topic
- Look at test review
  - Ex: Science Unit 5: Energy Transformations
    - Energy can be neither created nor destroyed, but can change forms.
    - Kinetic energy, potential energy, thermal energy, Law of Conservation of Energy
  - Let's start with Kinetic Energy. Pull out every paper that mentions kinetic energy
  - Read aloud every sentence on kinetic energy
  - Compare—see how sources sometimes give different or additional information
  - Read all of it and make sure you understand know all the points from different sources
  - Repeat with the next concept until all concepts on review have been covered





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## Resources



## Resources

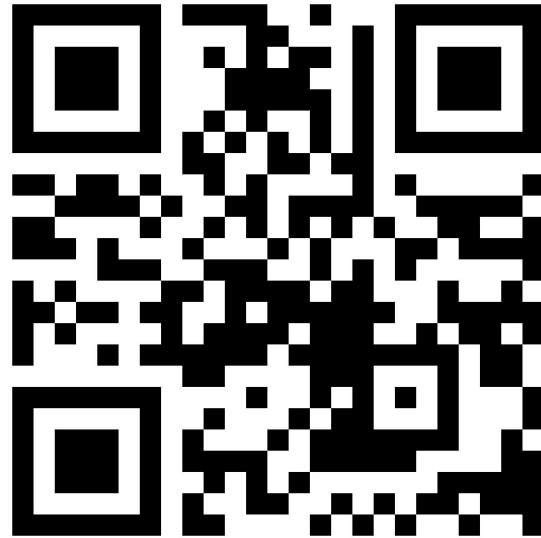
- [GT/Advanced Academics Webpage](#)
- Edmentum Blog
  - [Study Skills Tips](#)
  - [HW and Study Habits](#)
- School Counselors
- [Khan Academy](#) (content knowledge)
- YouTube
  - [Crash Course](#)
  - [Mr Parr](#) (Science)
- Brain Pop (My Katy Cloud)
- Pinterest
  - Study area set-up
  - Planner/calendar templates
  - Study skills/tips

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## Resources

## Resources

QR for Parent  
Presentation:



QR for Parent  
Feedback Survey:

