

FamilyCircle

108 DINNER IDEAS

NEW SLOW COOKER RECIPES + 25 TWISTS ON CHICKEN + TIPS, TECHNIQUES AND MORE

INSTANT ORGANIZING
LESS STUFF,
MORE SPACE

15 WAYS TO LOSE 10 POUNDS

BEST PRODUCTS TO CLEAN PET STAINS

WHY COFFEE & BEER ARE GOOD FOR YOUR HEART

TACOS!
Spicy Beef,
Chicken & Mango
& Cajun Shrimp
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BRAIN-BOOSTING SNACKS

STREAMING APPS AND WHAT YOUR KIDS ARE DOING WITH THEM

DIY KITCHEN UPGRADE

SEPTEMBER 2015
familycircle.com



Top Handle Backpack in Aqua Chevron, yoobi.com, \$25. Backpack in Vine Dot, garnethill.com, \$45. Divoga Metallic Pop Notebook, Personal Size Notebook, Scissors and Pen Set with Case, Office Depot and OfficeMax stores, \$2 to \$4. Order Out Of Chaos 2015-2016 Academic Planner in Orange Burst, orderoochaos.com, from \$19.

Every student should own an academic planner, says Debbie Lillard. The Order Out of Chaos Academic Planner, below, features large pages for recording assignments and free-time pursuits.

Some schools sell teacher-approved packaged supply kits as fundraisers, which can be pricey but save time and support the institution or a parent-teacher organization in the process. Teachertailored.com is one option to explore for more information.

One week before the beginning of school, start having everyone go to bed and wake up early, straighten their rooms and eat breakfast, suggests Lillard. "This gets kids adjusted to the upcoming routine," she says.

Save online coupons, snapshots of paper circulars and discount codes for all your favorite stores to an album on your smartphone. Be sure to check the web or download deal-tracking apps for even more discounts. Dewkett likes CardStar, an app that allows you to access your loyalty cards. (For additional tips and apps, see "S Is for Savings," our back-to-school shopping story, on page 84.)

Photos: (calendar) Peter Dawley/Getty, (supplies) Peter Arditto.