

TALL ORDER

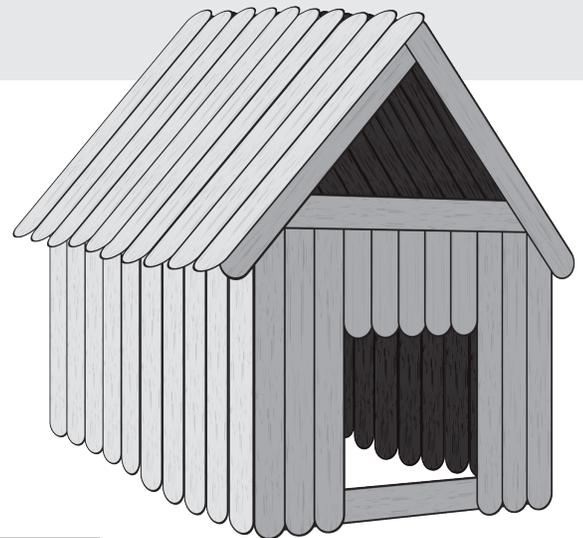
# Develop an action plan

**Materials:** Worksheet copies, 200 Popsicle® sticks (100 per team), tape measure, pens or pencils, timer

**Directions:** Read the worksheet, complete the activity and discuss as a group.

Middle school often means more of everything – more students, more classes and yes, more homework.

How do you cope with all this “more”?



## Get to your homework before it gets to you!

It's helpful to plan ahead to accomplish your assignments. Planning allows you to function at your best, without distractions and interruptions.

Let's do an activity that demonstrates the benefits of planning.

### ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS

- 1 Divide into two teams. Using Popsicle sticks, each team will build the tallest house they can on a stable, hard surface. Team members must remain silent while building. You'll have 5 minutes to build.

*(Set the timer for 5 minutes.)*

- 2 When the timer sounds, stop building, measure the house and write the height below.

House height: .....

- 3 Next, each team will develop a plan to build the tallest house. You'll have 3 minutes to plan.

*(Set the timer for 3 minutes.)*

- 4 When the timer sounds, each team will build another house using their plan. Team members can discuss as they build. You'll have 5 minutes to build.

*(Set the timer for 5 minutes.)*

- 5 When the timer sounds, stop building, measure the house and write the height below.

House height: .....

- 6 Compare the height of each house without a plan to each house with a plan. How did planning aid in building a taller house? How can homework planning help you complete it?

