



Major Differences Between Elementary and Middle School

Elementary School	Middle School
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students have one or two teachers that teach every subject, or share subjects. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students have as many as six or seven different teachers and classes.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students typically stay in one or two classrooms all day long. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students change classrooms each hour to go to different classes.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students are given recess. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is no recess in middle school.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students can attend P.E. in the clothes they come to school wearing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students are required to change into P.E. clothes in locker rooms with their peers.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students have their own desk to keep their belongings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students may be assigned a locker, or be expected to carry their belongings with them. They must develop organizational strategies.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students have 30 or so minutes of homework each evening. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students have homework from each class, resulting in additional homework.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Most elementary schools don't offer extracurricular activities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Middle schools offer extracurricular activities including sports, clubs, choir, band, student council and many others.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Most elementary schools do not offer related arts or elective classes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Middle schools offer elective classes where students can study art, band, orchestra, choir, foreign languages, theater arts, and many more subjects.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students walk with their classes and teacher in a line to move around the building. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students will move on their own during passing periods when changing classes and going to lunch.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools buildings are smaller with classrooms organized in groups or pods. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School buildings are larger with many classrooms organized in hallways.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are some clubs, but students must be supervised by an adult at all times. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are after school activities like pep rallies, dances, homework help, football games and clubs.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students sit with their class in the cafeteria at lunch. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students may be free to choose where they sit in the cafeteria at lunch.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As a fifth grader you are going to school with students younger than you. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You will enter middle school going to school with older and bigger students.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students receive specific guidance from teachers in school work. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School work is more challenging and includes more homework and tests.