

School's Out! How to Reset Your Home for a Kid-Full Summer

by Tanner Clark

The school year ends with an explosive woo hoo... and often, a trail of backpacks, crumpled-up paper, broken crayons, and forgotten water bottles. Before you shove everything into a closet and pretend it doesn't exist until August (yes, we know about that), let's talk about the School's Out Reset. This isn't just about tidying up; it's about reclaiming your space and your sanity for the summer ahead.



Create a Keepsake Bin:

If you have children or even grandchildren and you don't have a designated container for schoolwork, art projects, and sentimental items, you definitely need to do this. Be selective—only save the gems and let the rest go. Once you have a nice collection, you can use a service like [Artkive](#) to have all of your child's artwork turned into a beautiful book that takes up a fraction of the space.

Backpack Decompression:

Empty backpacks fully, toss the crumbs, throw them into the washing machine if possible, and store them out of sight. No one needs to open up a backpack in the fall and find old math tests and moldy food. While you're emptying those bags, it's a good idea to assess any remaining school supplies and start a list on your phone called "school supplies" for anything you know you'll need to replace.

Repurpose Homework Zones:

Spaces that were used for distraction-free homework time can be used in the summer too! These make great craft areas, reading nooks, or (as much as my son hates this) a place to keep up math skills and prevent the summer slip with an age-appropriate workbook. I love the ones from [Summer Bridge](#).

Summer Zones:

We're going to spend a few minutes here because the absolute disaster that happens in the kitchen during the summer in a household with kids is nightmare-inducing! Here are some quick fixes to help minimize the mess.

Does your entryway fill up with flip-flops and beach towels? Try placing a large bin with a lid in this area so that shoes, hats, goggles, etc. can easily be tossed in.

Does your kitchen counter become a mess of half-empty glasses and unknown sticky substances? Assign each child a color-coded cup or reusable water bottle for the day.

Does the kitchen cleaning seem to be continuous? Create a kid-friendly cleaning caddy with a rag, paper towels, cleaning spray, and wipes. Teach kids to clean their own messes, depending on age. And while you're at it, start a simple summer habit: teach your kids to put their used plates and utensils directly into the dishwasher. This is a great starter chore that can be added to a reward system if you're using one.

Does "can I have a snack" get asked 50 times a day? Make pantry and fridge snack baskets. Pre-portion snacks into bins or small containers so kids can help themselves without rifling through everything and leaving chaos behind.

Summer should be about family time, sun-filled days, ice cream cones, and relaxation! We hope these simple tips can help all of your summertime dreams come true.

Product of the Month



Charleston Handwoven Seagrass Sorting Basket

This beachy and stylish sorting bin on wheels from Pottery Barn is intended for recycling but we think it would be great in an entryway. Use one compartment for each family member or roll up beach towels in one zone and use the other two for flip flops and beach toys. The possibilities are endless!

[click the image for more info](#)

Need Help?



Feeling overwhelmed by the summer chaos ahead? We can help you tackle the transition. Whether it's clearing out clutter, setting up snack stations, or organizing your summer zones, we are here to make your home feel ready for a new season so you can enjoy it! Email us for a consultation:

tanner@realorganizedllc.com

RealOrganizedLLC.com

jill@realorganizedllc.com • 603-498-1526
tanner@realorganizedllc.com • 603-512-8511