

The Life of a Sixth Grader

___ The first thing I thought when I walked into my new school was “I’m definitely going to get lost in here a few times”. I thought middle school was going to be terrible when I couldn’t figure out how to put the combination in my locker. The first day of school, when I tried to open my locker at the beginning of the day, I was sweating because I was so nervous. It took me three tries to open my locker that day. After that day and a little bit of practice, I was a pro at opening my locker.

I was also super scared when I had to go to lunch the first day. I walked in and had no clue where to sit. Even though all of my friends were in there eating lunch the same time as me, I was afraid that maybe the people at our table didn’t want me to sit with them. I turned out to love my table. We had so much fun, laughing and goofing around at lunch. It wasn’t as bad as I thought it would be.

I had gym the first semester of the sixth grade and I did not want to change in the locker room. I just thought it was so weird having to change into my gym clothes in front of everybody. Every time I had to change for gym, I would hurry up and get into the locker room first. I would go into the room where nobody could see me and I would change before anybody else came into the locker room. I changed so quickly that I was always one of the first ones out of the locker room.

Another big change was going from having two teachers in the fifth grade, to having six different teachers and six different classes in the sixth grade. Sure enough, I went to the wrong classes and got lost a few times the first few days of school, like I knew I would when I first came to open house. It was nice having a few extra minutes between classes, since most of our classes are in the same common area. I always got to class a few minutes early so I could talk to my friends until the bell rang.

It was pretty intimidating having to walk by all of the older kids. I was terrified of them. They were so much taller than me. I was scared that I was accidentally going to bump into one of them and then they’d get really mad and embarrass me. Most of the eighth graders turned out to be really nice, but you can’t tell that from just looking at them.

Another big change was going from walking in lines to and from everywhere in school, to having to figure out when to go to your locker in between classes. I ended up putting everything in a binder and bringing that binder everywhere. Then, I didn’t have to stop at my locker after every class, which gave me extra time in between classes.

Everybody has to go through middle school sometime, now or then. It can be tough at first, getting to class on time, finding somewhere to sit at lunch, and getting all of your homework done, but once you go through the routine for a few weeks, you’ll get used to it. Once you get into the rhythm of going to your classes, going to lunch, and then going to more classes, the school year will fly by.