

HOMEWORK TIPS FOR PARENTS

Homework is an opportunity for children to learn and for parents to be involved in their children's education. Homework is designed to help students reinforce key concepts, process new information and, provide time for extra practice skills. Learning doesn't stop when school is over for the day.

Children are more successful in school when parents take an active role in their homework. Research shows that parental involvement can have either a positive or negative impact on the value of homework.

Homework has many benefits, such as helping students develop study skills and teaching time management skills. However, helping children with homework is not always easy for many parents. Below are several tips to make homework time a pleasant experience for you and your child.

1. Schedule a Regular Time for Homework

It is important to establish a set time each day for doing homework. Set a specific time as "*Homework Time.*" This will give you and your child a daily routine. Try to do homework as early as possible. Teach your child how to manage his or her time. Give you child a time frame in which to complete his/her homework. Demonstrate to them how to break up long assignments into more manageable parts.

2. Remove Distractions

Before homework starts, clear the work area and make sure to remove all distractions from the room. Make sure the TV or music is off. Establish a rule that making or receiving phone calls during homework time is not allowed except a phone call to a classmate about an assignment.

3. Set up a Homework Area

Make sure all of the supplies that are needed are available. Make sure the room where the child's study area is located is quiet and has plenty of light. Make sure no one is coming in and out of the room. Doing these things will make homework time a more pleasant time for your child.

4. Give Praise

Be a motivator and praise your child for his/her efforts. Children need encouragement from their parents. It is important to them. They love it and it helps them to feel proud of their work. Be your child's cheerleader and motivate them to complete their work and do a good job. Say things, such as, "*Great job! Keep up the good work! That is awesome! I am so proud of you!*" Children respond to praise. You will be amazed what praise can do for a child. If you are positive about homework and homework time, your child will acquire the same attitude you have. Children learn what they see.

5. Give Your Child a Break

If your child is getting frustrated, give him/her a short break. This will refresh the child and help him or her to have the energy to complete the homework without being so frustrated.

6. Reward Success

If your child has successfully completed his homework and has done a great job, reward your child to keep him/her motivated and encouraged.