

Tips for Helping Your Child Be Successful in School



Focus on Completing Homework

Children need to know that their family members think homework is important. You can do several things to show your child you value education and homework:

Schedule a Regular Time for Homework

Set up a time when your child should complete their homework. Help them to keep to this schedule each day.



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Pick a place

It is helpful if students have a regular place to complete their homework. Help your child to choose a quiet, well lit room to complete their work.



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Supplies

Make sure your child has all of the supplies that they need to complete their assignments. Walk through major assignments with your child to what is needed for each step.



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Check their Work

Take a look at your child's homework assignments. Most students should be able to complete homework independently. You may want to have your child work on their own for 45 minutes, then bring their work to you to check over for 15 minutes. This teaches independent work, but also reinforces that you believe completing homework is important.



Communicate with Teachers

One of the most important steps to supporting your child's learning is to talk with their teachers. Communication should be ongoing throughout the school year, but a positive first step is to schedule a one-on-one parent/teacher conference at your child's school.



Here's a list of important questions to ask at a parent/teacher conference:

- ❖ What will you expect my child to know in core subjects by the end of the semester/year?
- ❖ What are my child's strengths in each subject?
- ❖ In subjects where my child needs extra help, how, together, can we provide that help?
- ❖ How will I know if my child is doing OK or falling behind?
- ❖ What should I do if my child is struggling with homework?

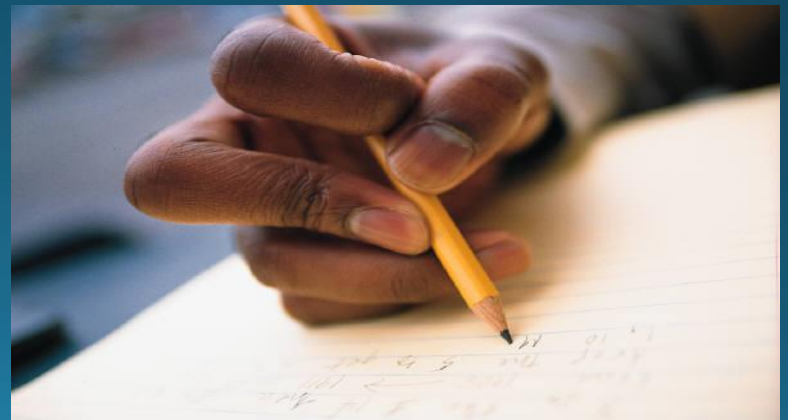


When you meet with your child's teachers, take the time to get acquainted. You and your child's teachers will be partners in their education for the next year. Discuss the best way to communicate with each other through the year when sit down meetings are not possible. Remembering that many teachers do not have the opportunity to take phone calls during the day, consider exchanging written notes, or even e-mail.



If you or the teacher identifies an area where your child needs help, discuss strategies or supports that may help. You as the parent can request:

- **Weekly Reports/Daily Communication Logs** – This is another form of teacher/parent communication. Teachers can write notes to you on your child's school performance, keeping you up to date on concerns and progress.



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