

K.I.S.S.

Kids
Implementing
Study
Strategies

HOW YOU CAN
HELP YOUR CHILD
STUDY AT HOME

WHY DO SCHOOLWORK AT HOME?

Doing schoolwork at home is important for several reasons:

1. It develops habits essential for later success in later life.
2. It provides practice time for class learning and preparation for upcoming lessons.
3. It teaches students to work independently and nurtures self-discipline.
4. It provides opportunities for parents to encourage their child's school success.

Education as a priority in your home

Children need support, encouragement and praise from the people they value the most- **you, their parents**. Using praise to motivate your child helps him/her feel good about his or her ability and motivates your child to be the best s/he can be.

Some tips include:

1. Encourage your child to believe in him/herself.
2. Talk daily to your child about what she/he is learning.
3. Schoolwork must supersede all other activities.
4. Keep in close contact with your child's teacher and other school community members and staff.
5. Join the library and model interest in learning.
6. Make the time to help your child with drill, practice and final studying.
7. **Daily French and English reading to and with children is the single most effective strategy for helping your children succeed in school.**

Proper Study Area

Your children must have a comfortable place in which to effectively complete assignments. This space should consistently be used as the study area. It may be in your child's room, or at the kitchen or dining room table. This place needs to be well-lit, comfortable and should have all the study materials close by. In the place where your child and you decide that homework is to be done these guidelines should be followed:

Proper Study Area

1. The space needs a flat surface.
2. The area needs to be well lit.
3. The area needs to be free from distractions; such as a TV.
4. A Homework Survival Kit is kept close at hand.

Home Schoolwork Survival Kit

A major requirement for completion of daily schoolwork is having a set of school supplies in one "kit". This kit can be a shoe box, basket, bag etc. which is kept in the child's study area.

By having a Home Schoolwork Survival Kit available each evening and weekend, your child will be able to get right to work without being distracted by searching for supplies. The following items are suggested for a Home Schoolwork Survival Kit.

HOME SCHOOLWORK SURVIVAL KIT	
-pencils	-sharpener
-pens (red and blue)	-erasers
-felts and pencil crayons	-glue stick
-highlighter	-writing paper
-stapler	-scissors
-Bescherelle	-French/English dictionary

Drop off Spot

This is an area (hopefully near the usual exit door) which "belongs" to your child. The drop off spot can be a hook on a wall or door, a section on a counter, table or whatever. This is the place where your child always places his/her backpack so that the assignments are not left at home. Steps to remembering assignments: 1. Bring it home 2. Complete it! 3. Put it in backpack 4. Put backpack in drop off spot 5. On the way out the door, grab backpack! That's all there is to it!

Daily Home Schoolwork Time

Schoolwork at home, like other out of school activities, must be scheduled into your child's life and given priority in your home. Children cannot regard school work as something to be done when all other activities are completed. With your child you can draw up a weekly schedule with daily school work times that fit into your family's busy schedule. POST it in a prominent place!

During this preplanned time set aside each day, all other activities must stop. So, during home schoolwork time your child should go to his/her study area, get out the Survival Kit of study materials, and get to work. NO TV! NO PHONE! NO PLAY!

The setting up of a daily home schoolwork time could be the most important way you can assist your child. If your child does not have assigned homework, this time can be used for reading or writing.

FOCUS QUESTIONS FOR *BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER* READING

Reading is active.
We construct meaning; we don't absorb it.

BEFORE READING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activate or develop background knowledge. <i>What do I already know?</i> • Activate or provide knowledge of text structure. <i>How is this book written?</i> • Talk about important vocabulary. <i>What words do I need to know?</i> • Help establish a purpose for reading. <i>Why am I reading this?</i>
DURING READING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help maintain purpose. <i>How am I doing at understanding what I'm reading?</i> • Organize information <i>What am I learning?</i> • Build internal relationships among information <i>How is what I'm reading now connected with what I've read?</i>
AFTER READING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talk about the purpose the student had for reading. • Help the student organize information. • Help the student evaluate and reflect on his or her learning. <i>Did I achieve my purpose?</i> • Help the student integrate information from the text with what they already know. <i>What do I know now that I didn't know before?</i> • Help the student relate new knowledge to the real world.