

Homework Tips

WHAT KIDS CAN DO

Have your kids run through this homework checklist:

- Did you find a quiet place to do your homework?
- Have a homework schedule — and stick to it.
- Do you understand what you are being asked to do?
- Do your homework as soon as you can.
- Make the best use of your time.
- Remember some of your vocabulary by remembering similar-sounding words.
- Check your work — before your teacher does it for you.
- Don't let the television rule your life.
- Study with a friend if it helps you.
- Get a good night's sleep.
- Did you pay attention to your teacher's corrections?
- Plan the work, then work the plan.
- Remember: presentation counts.
- Start a revision notebook.
- Did you check your math answers with a calculator?
- Take regular breaks.
- Tackle hard work first.
- Don't put it off until tomorrow.
- Do your best — ask for help on the rest.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP YOUR KIDS

- Make sure your child has a quiet, well-lit place to do homework. Avoid having your child do homework with the television on or in places with other distractions, such as people coming and going.
- Make sure the materials your child needs, such as paper, pencils, and a dictionary, are available. Ask your child if special materials will be needed for some projects and get them in advance.
- When the teacher asks that you play a role in homework, do it.
- Be positive about homework. Tell your child how important school is. The attitude you express about homework will be the attitude your child acquires.
- When your child does homework, you do homework. Show your child that the skills they are learning are related to things you do as an adult. If your child is reading, you read too. If your child is doing math, balance your checkbook.
- Establish a regular time and place to do homework.
- When your child asks for help, provide guidance, not answers.
- If homework is meant to be done by your child alone, stay away. Too much parent involvement can prevent homework from having some positive effects. Homework is a great way for kids to develop independent, lifelong learning skills.
- Watch your child for signs of failure and frustration. Let your child take a short break if she is having trouble keeping her mind on an assignment.
- Reward progress in homework.
- Stay informed from your child's teacher.

Source: US Department of Education

