

Homework and Studying at Home



Be positive—your attitude about homework will make all the difference!

- Tell your children how important it is to study and do their best at school
- Ask the teacher at the beginning of the school year: How much time do you expect students to spend on homework? What type of involvement do you expect from parents?
- Pick a time for daily study (if children have no homework, they can read or review)
- Remove distractions, including the TV and phone/devices

Study time: Be interested, available, and supportive

- Encourage your child to work independently
- If your child asks for help, listen and provide guidance, not answers
- Watch your child for signs of frustration, offering a break or a chance to talk through difficulties
- If your child is struggling with homework, approach the teacher positively, as a partner, and find out what you can both do to help your child

Reward progress and hard work

- Beware of praising intelligence (“You’re so smart”). Children may then choose easier tasks out of fear of failing. Praising effort instead keeps them working toward more challenging goals.
- Celebrate big accomplishments with a treat (a favorite food, a trip to the park, etc.).

Help with time management

- Have your children do harder work first when they are most alert
- Help your children keep track of assignments and due dates, especially for larger projects

ADI. (2018). A guide for families: Helping your child succeed in school.
<https://www.schoolcommunitynetwork.org/docs/FamilyGuide.pdf>

Redding, S., Murphy, M., & Sheley, P. (2011). Handbook on family and community engagement (FACE). Information Age.
<https://www.schoolcommunitynetwork.org/downloads/FACEHandbook.pdf>

