

Improve Your Child's Learning Through Fostering Effective Organizational and Study Skills

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Make School Work a High Priority

- Set high expectation
- Provide support and reinforcement
- Set designated study/homework times and location
- Provide materials that promote organization
- Show your child the skills he/she is learning will be important to his/her live as an adult.

Set a Designated Homework/Study Time and Location

- Include your child in creating a homework/study schedule when possible.
- Determine a consistent time each day for your child to work on homework/organizational skills.
- Choose a quiet area with appropriate lighting.
- Be consistent and let your child know that if no homework is brought home, he/she will need to select to participate in an educational activity during the scheduled time.

Provide Guidance and Support

- Review assignments with your child. Make sure they understand directions and their teacher's expectations.
- Help your child plan for long term projects.
- Consider your child's learning style when helping them study or selecting assignments (hands on versus written reports) when appropriate.
- Assist your child with assignments, but let it be his/her work.
- Praise your child's efforts.

Homework – A Positive Experience

- Provide support and praise
- Provide choices (when, where, how) in homework completion
- Display work that is done well
- Provide breaks
- Be a good listener and encourage your child to ask questions.
- NEVER use homework as a punishment.

Imposing Logical Consequences

- Provide genuine and specific praise.
- Display well-done work.
- If child “forgets” homework or supplies, have them work on other academic tasks during designated homework time.
- Set-up a reward system for work completion, homework preparation, or improved grades.
- If your child doesn’t comply with study/homework plan, consider the following:
 - Give less control about where and when homework is to be done.
 - Deny the child the opportunity to participate in a desired event (home or school).
 - Maintain ongoing communication with the teacher in which you both check and sign your child’s assignment pad, daily.

Provide Your Child With Organizational & Study Supplies


- Assignment Pad
- Check Lists
- Binders
- Dividers
- Different Colored Folders
- Accordion Style Folders
- Three-hole Punch
- Ruler
- Calculator
- Labels/Stickers
- Various Highlighters
- Sticky Notes
- File Cabinet or Caddy
- Calendar/Master Schedule
- Index Cards
- Binder Reinforcements
- Dictionary/Thesaurus
- Computer

Keep Organized Notebooks

- Have your child use a binder or notebook that allows him to label sections.
- Use dividers to separate subjects.
- Color code notebooks/supplies.
- Encourage your child to date papers.
- Plan for regular opportunities to review and clean out notebooks each week/semester.
- Utilize one folder for completed homework.

Learning Styles

Consider your child's strengths and preferred learning styles.



Learning Styles - Auditory

Auditory learners prefer to listen to information presented orally and process the information by repeating it aloud.

Auditory Learning Strategies

Verbal rehearsal

- Rereading notes
- Have a question and answer session with a peer or adult.

Read content or notes into a tape recorder and play back.

Learning Styles - Visual

Visual learners picture things in their minds and create mental images. They process information best when it is presented in print, diagrams, or pictures.

Visual Learning Strategies

Reread notes to self

Make outlines

Use graphic organizers

Use models or pictures

Learning Styles - Kinesthetic

Kinesthetic learners benefit from direct experiences. They prefer to participate in activities and performing skills such as writing and taking notes.

Kinesthetic Learning Strategies

Make and practice with flashcards

Role play or act

Create mock tests

Create games (matching, memory, board)

Rewrite notes

Use highlighters to mark important vocabulary, terms, or phrases

Effective Study Strategies

- Set goals.
- Help expand your child's attention skills.
- Have your child circle the verbs in directions.
- Help your child to understand different text characteristics.
- Encourage your child to look up words they come across and do not know.
- Help your child to map or outline reading material.

Effective Study Strategies - continued

- Explain the SQ3R reading strategy (Survey, Questions, Recites and Writes, Reviews).
- Make sure the text he reads is an appropriate level. He should be able to read 9 out of 10 words accurately and answer 3 out of 4 questions correctly.
- Encourage your child to organize his thoughts before starting a writing assignment (brainstorming, mapping, discussion).
- Provide opportunity for your child to become skilled in keyboarding and word processing skills

Organizational and Study Skills

Effective organizational and study skills improve learning, cultivate responsibility, promote independence, and foster good work habits.