

HOMESWORK TIPS FOR PARENTS OF PK-12

★ **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.

★ **Help your child with time management.**

Establish a set time each day for doing homework. Don't let your child leave homework until just before bedtime. Think about using a weekend morning or afternoon for working on big projects, especially if the project involves getting together with classmates.

★ **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, read the newspaper, a magazine article, or a book. If your child is doing math, balance your checkbook.

★ **When your child asks for help, provide guidance, not answers.**

Giving answers means your child will not learn the material. Too much help teaches your child that when the going gets rough, someone will do the work for him or her.

★ **When your child has a temper tantrum and refuses to do his/her homework.**

If your child refuses to do his/her homework, don't make excuses for them. Allow them to suffer the consequences of their actions at school the next day. This truly will teach them responsibility!

★ **When the teacher asks for your help, provide it.**

Cooperate with the teacher. It shows your child that the school and home are a team. Follow the directions given by the teacher.

★ **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.

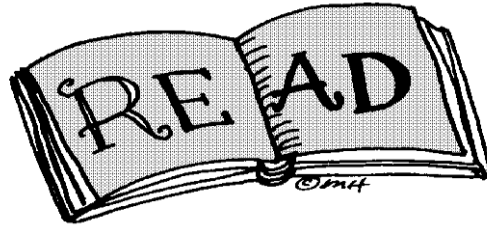
★ **Stay informed.**

Talk with your child's teacher. Make sure you know the purpose of homework and what your child's class rules are.

★ **Reward progress in homework.**

If your child has been successful in homework completion and is working hard, celebrate that success with a special event (e.g., pizza, a walk, a trip to the park) to reinforce the positive effort.

TIPS TO HELP YOUR ELEMENTARY STUDENT BECOME A BETTER READER



- ★ Have your child read aloud to you every night – or you read aloud to your child every night.
- ★ As your child reads, point out spelling and sound patterns such as *cat*, *pat*, *hat*.
- ★ When your child reads aloud to you and makes a mistake, point out the words she has missed and help her to read the word correctly.
- ★ After your child has stopped to correct a word he has read, have him go back and reread the entire sentence from the beginning to make sure he understands what the sentence is saying.
- ★ Ask your child to tell you in her own words what happened in a story.
- ★ To check your child's understanding of what he is reading, occasionally pause and ask your child questions about the characters and events in the story.
- ★ Ask your child why she thinks a character acted in a certain way and ask your child to support her answer with information from the story.
- ★ Before getting to the end of a story, ask your child what he thinks will happen next and why.

Reading Strategies
What Do Good Readers Do?

Look



Look at the pictures for clues.

Mouth



Get your **mouth** ready to say the first sound.

Tap



Tap the sounds.

Reread



Go back and **read** it again.

Chunk



Look for **chunks** or parts you know.

Skip



Skip the word, read the sentence, then hop back and try again.

Flip



Flip the vowel. Try a short vowel, then try a long vowel.

Try



Try a word that makes sense.

Ask



Ask myself - Does it Look Right? Does it Sound Right? Does it Make Sense?

Reading Passage Strategies

WHAT DOES

THE WORD MEAN?

Look above, below, and
on the sides for clues
in the text!

Do not rush!
Stay focused.

TRY thinking, "Does
that make sense?"

Start reading the
passage TWICE.

Select the BEST
answer choice.

Circle title,
vocabulary, &
paragraph
numbers!

Go back &
REREAD
to find
answers.

"Plug in"
vocabulary.

Cross out any incorrect
answer choices
immediately.

