

# How to Help your Child Become A Successful Learner





- How Do You Feel At This Point in the Pandemic?
- What Adjustments Are You Having to Make to Take Good Care of Yourself and Your Family?
- Are You Taking Time to Give Yourself Credit for All That You Have Done to Maintain A Sense of Normalcy During the Pandemic?



Support from parents is key to helping kids do well academically.

# Support Homework Expectations

- Homework reinforces and extends classroom learning and helps kids practice important study skills. It also helps them develop a sense of responsibility and a work ethic that will benefit them beyond the classroom.
- Make sure your child knows that you see homework as a priority, you can help by creating an effective study environment. Any well-lit, comfortable, and quiet workspace with the necessary supplies will do. Avoiding distractions (like a TV in the background) and setting up a start and end time can also help.
- A good rule of thumb for an effective homework and/or study period is at least 10 minutes per day.
- While your child does homework, be available to interpret assignment instructions, offer guidance, answer questions, and review the completed work. But resist the urge to provide the correct answers or complete the assignments yourself.

# Teach Organizational Skills

- Make sure your child has an assignment book and homework folder to keep track of homework and projects.
- Check your child's assignment book and homework folder every school night so you're familiar with assignments and your child doesn't fall behind.
- Set up a bin for papers that you need to check or sign.
- Keep a special box or bin for completed and graded projects and toss papers that you don't need to keep.
- Teach your child how to use a calendar or personal planner to help stay organized.
- It's also helpful to teach your child how to make a to-do list to help prioritize and get things done.

# Teach Study Skills

- Introducing your child to study skills now will pay off with good learning habits throughout life.
- Be sure to know when a test is scheduled so you can help your child study ahead of time rather than just the night before.
- You also might need to remind your child to bring home the right study materials, such as notes, study guides, or books.
- Teach your child how to break down overall tasks into smaller, manageable chunks so preparing for a test isn't overwhelming.
- You also can introduce your child to tricks like mnemonic devices to help with recalling information.
- Remember that taking a break after a 45-minute study period is an important way to help kids process and remember information.

# Take Attendance Seriously

- Sick kids should stay home from school if they have a fever, are nauseated, vomiting, or have diarrhea. Kids who lose their appetite, are clingy or lethargic, complain of pain, or who just don't seem to be acting "themselves" also might benefit from a sick day.
- Otherwise, it's important that kids arrive at school on time every day, because having to catch up with class work and homework can be stressful and interfere with learning.
- If your child is missing a lot of school due to illness, make sure to check with the teacher about any work that needs to be completed.
- It's also a good idea to know the school's attendance policy.

# Make Time to Talk About School

- Make time to talk with your child every day, so he or she knows that what goes on at school is important to you. When kids know parents are interested in their academic lives, they'll take school seriously as well.
- Because communication is a two-way street, the way you talk and listen to your child can influence how well your child listens and responds.
- It's important to listen carefully, make eye contact, and avoid multitasking while you talk. Be sure to ask questions that go beyond "yes" or "no" answers.





# Support Your Child Academically

- Ask the teacher how well your child is doing in class. If your child is not keeping up, especially when it comes to reading, ask what you or the school can do to help. It's important to act early before your child gets too far behind.
- Be sure to review your child's report card each time it comes out.
- Apply for special services if you think your child may need it. If your child is having problems with learning, ask the school to evaluate your child in his or her strongest language. The teacher might be able to provide accommodations for your child in class.
- Monitor your child's television, video game, and Internet use. American children on average spend far more time watching TV, playing video games and using the Internet than they do completing homework or other school-related activities.

# Support Your Child's Learning at Home

- Encourage your child to use the library. Libraries are places of learning and discovery for everyone. Helping your child find out about libraries will set him on the road to being an independent learner.
- Encourage your child to be responsible and work independently. Taking responsibility and working independently are important qualities for school success.
- Make learning a four-season endeavor.
- Encourage active learning. Children need active learning as well as quiet learning such as reading and doing homework. Active learning involves asking and answering questions, solving problems and exploring interests.
- Set high expectations to challenge your child to achieve beyond what they think they can achieve.
- Teach them that learning is their 'job.'

# Actions for You to Take

- Attend parent-teacher conferences to stay informed.
- Visit the School Website Regularly.
- Know the School Rules and Disciplinary Policies.



# Parents and Teachers Working Together Equal

