



Set a Regular Time for Homework Having a regular time to do homework helps children to finish assignments. The best schedule is one that works for your child and your family.

Pick a Place Your children's homework area doesn't have to be fancy. A desk in the bedroom is nice, but for many children, the kitchen table or a corner of the living room works just fine. The area should have good lighting and it should be fairly quiet.

Remove Distractions Turn off the TV! Some children work well with quiet background music, but loud noise from the CD player, radio or TV is not OK.

Provide Supplies and Identify Resources

Have available pencils, pens, erasers, writing paper and a dictionary. If possible, keep these items together in one place. If you can't provide your children with needed supplies, check with the teacher, school guidance counselor or principal about possible sources of assistance.

Set a Good Example

Show your children that the skills they are learning are an important part of the things they will do as an adult. Let them see you reading books, newspapers and computer screens; writing reports, letters and lists; using math to balance your checkbook doing other things that require thought and effort. Tell them about what you do at work. Help your children to use everyday routines to support the skills they are learning-

Be Interested and Interesting Make time to take your children to the library to check out materials needed for homework (and for enjoyment). Read with your children every day. Talk about school and learning activities in family conversations. Ask your

children what was discussed in class that day. If they don't have much to say, try another approach. For example, ask them to read aloud a story they wrote. Attend school activities. If you can, volunteer to help in your children's school

Be Available Some children often like to have someone with them to answer questions as they work on assignments. If your children are cared for by someone else, talk to that caregiver about how to deal with homework. If the teacher has made it known that students are to do homework on their own, limit your assistance. Too much parent involvement can make children dependent- and takes away from the value of homework as a way for children to become independent and responsible.

Look over Completed Assignments Check to see that your child has finished her assignments.

Encourage Good Study Habits Teachers generally give students tips on how to study. It takes time and practice to develop good study habits. Encourage and facilitate good study habits.

Give Praise. Praise is one of the best motivators for children.

