



Homework Tips for Parents

1. Have an agreement with your children on homework rules, such as when it must be done, where it should be done, and what will happen if children are watching TV and their homework is not finished.
2. Set up a place for your children to do homework, such as a desk in their room or at the kitchen table. Be sure that there is good light and that distractions are limited. Have necessary supplies including paper, pencils, and a dictionary available.
3. Expect your children to do homework each night. Ask them about homework assignments and show them that you think doing homework is an important responsibility.
4. Try to schedule homework at a time when you are at home, so that you can supervise and help your children. If this is not possible, be sure to check on their homework each night. Ask them to make a note of any problems that will require your assistance.
5. Be sure that your children understand all homework assignments. If they have trouble, work through an example with them.
6. Do not do your children's homework for them. Instead, work with them and encourage them to complete it themselves.
7. If your children are in elementary school, check, sign, and date their homework each night.
8. Be sure that all homework is finished in proper form and placed in your children's backpacks or book bags before they go to bed. Nothing starts the day off worse than a mad scramble to complete a forgotten assignment or hunting through the house for lost homework.
9. Keep track of your children's homework assignments and ask to see work that teachers have returned. Pay close attention to teachers' comments and look for any recurring problems.
10. Contact your children's teachers if you do not understand their assignments or if your children have a special problem. Also, contact their teachers if they never seem to assign homework.
11. Discuss teachers' homework expectations during parent-teacher conferences and ask how much time your children are expected to spend on homework each night.
12. Find out if your school has a homework policy. If there seems to be a problem with homework in your school - either too little or too much - ask your PTA/PTSA president to discuss homework at an upcoming meeting or call a special meeting for parents to discuss the topic.
13. Do not forget to praise your children for a job well done when they complete their homework and when you see an improvement.

Taken from PASSport to Success training module