

Parent University

What Do You Have For Homework Tonight?
Promoting Good Study Habits At Home



Turn this



Into this



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Ten Benefits of Homework

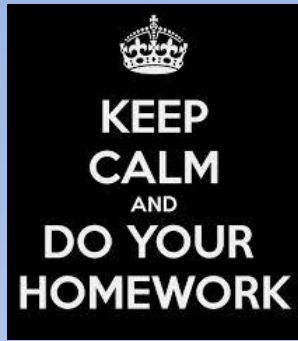
- Homework teaches students about time management.
- Homework teaches students how to set priorities.
- Homework helps teachers determine how well the lessons are being understood by their students.
- Homework teaches students how to problem solve.
- Homework gives students an opportunity to review the material taught in class.
- Homework gives parents a chance to see what is being learned in school.
- Homework teaches students that they may have to do things - even when they don't want to.
- Homework teaches students how to take responsibility.
- Homework teaches students how to work independently.
- Homework teaches students the importance of planning, staying organized and taking action.



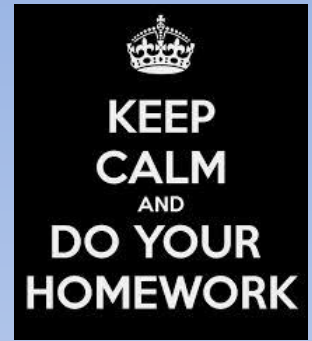
Good Homework Habits

- Create a study routine that your child will follow every day. When your child comes home from school, a set routine should be in place. You need to determine what the best routine is for you and your child. Does your child need a snack and some unwinding time before beginning homework? Or does your child prefer to get right to work? There is no "right" time for homework, it is whatever works for both your child and your family.
- Once a time is established it is a good idea to decide on a place that your child can complete his/her homework. Depending on your circumstances, you might provide your child with a desk in his bedroom or in another part of your home. You could also create a work area at the kitchen table or counter. Ensure that the study space is away from distractions such as television, video games and other family activities.
- Help your child organize his work area and his assignments. Children often struggle with organization, which can create a negative learning experience. Supply your child with all materials he might need for completing assignments at home, including pencils, paper, glue, paper clips, a computer, a printer and ink. Devise a system for keeping assignments organized, such as hanging files, horizontal bins or shelving.
- Click [here](#) to watch a video on organizing your child.





To Help or Not?!?!?

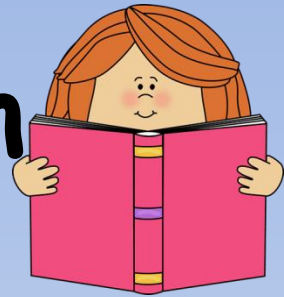


Parents often struggle with this question
Here's a list of Do's and Don'ts

- **DO** sit with your younger children during homework time.
- **DO** monitor your older child as they complete their homework.
- **DO** clarify instructions and check that your child understands what to do.
- **DO** give guidance and assistance when necessary.
- **DO** encourage and praise your child.
- **DO** encourage independence. Let your child choose the order they complete their homework. Have your child explain to you what they have to do.
- **DO** check your child's homework when they are finished. If they have wrong answers, help them correct them.
- **DO** check your younger child's folder each day. Older children can check their folder and show you what is in it.
- **DON'T** do your child's homework for him/her.
- **DON'T** complain about your child's assignment in front of them.



Helping Your Child Learn in Every Grade



What we learn with
pleasure
we never forget.

- ALFRED MERCIER

TALK TO YOUR CHILD

- Talk to your child about school each day. Ask lots of open ended questions (not questions that can be answered in a word or two). Here are some good questions to ask:

What was the best part of your day?

Who did they sit with at lunch?

What game did they play at gym or recess?

What story did the teacher read today?



READ TO YOUR CHILD



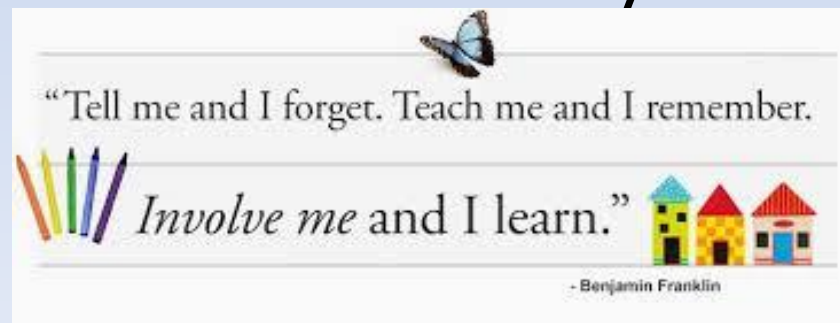
- Reading to your child allows your child to hear a fluent reader, exposes them to rich vocabulary and instills a sense of story. Have fun while you read. Use different voices or even act out silly parts. Reading together is a wonderful time to be with your child and just enjoy their company. Don't worry about making mistakes, just have fun being together.

**The more that you read,
the more things you will know.
The more that you learn,
the more places you'll go.**

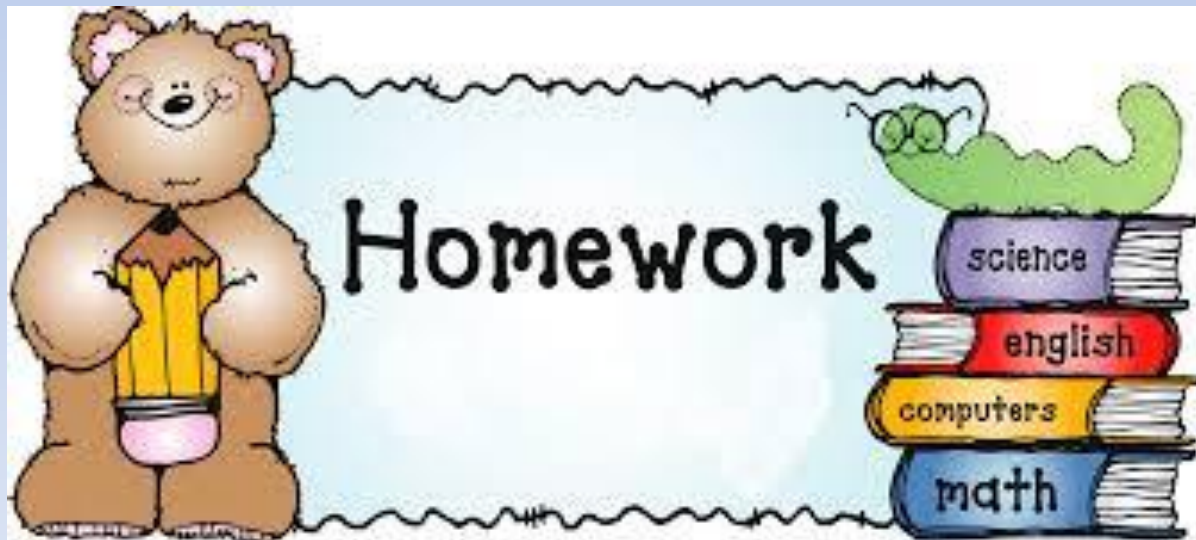
-- Dr. Seuss

Give Your Child Enriching Experiences

- Visit the library, museums, local theaters, etc.
- Spend a day at the beach, park or preserve.
- Go for a walk in the woods, on the boardwalk or just around your neighborhood.
- Play cards or board games together.
- Cook or bake together.
- Before, during and after your day together, TALK, TALK, and TALK some more. Ask about their favorite part of the day, what they wondered about and what they didn't like.



Helping Your Child Learn in the Primary Grades



MAKE LEARNING FUN

Learning letters and numbers should be fun.

Here are some fun suggestions:

- Cut letters from magazines, newspapers or junk mail to create a collage to teach your child letter identification.
- Use PlayDoh, shaving cream in the sink or bathtub, finger paint or dry pasta or cereal to make letters, numbers or words. It is important to always talk to your child during this process. Ask your child what letter they are making. Ask again! Repetition is very important to mastery. Click [here](#) to watch a video on making shaving cream letters.
- Use a small spiral bound index card notebook to make flash cards for sight words. Print one word on each page. Children can say the word, spell it and then say the word again. Review these words each night. When they master a word they will know how to say it and spell it.

Learning is fun!

Helping Your Child Learn in the Intermediate Grades





MAKE LEARNING FUN

- Students in the intermediate grades often have vocabulary and content area tests regularly. Here are some fun ways to learn the information:
 - Make flash cards (put the word on one side and the definition on the other side). Play the memory game with the cards.
 - Make a picture dictionary or book. Use one page for each word. Write the word, definition, draw a picture and use it in a sentence.
 - Use a familiar tune and change the words to suit your material. YouTube is a great resource for searching for educational songs or even educational videos - just be sure you do the search and not your kids. Click [here](#) and [here](#) to watch example song videos.
 - Play charades and act out your words for other family members.
 - Have your older kids make a Jeopardy Game with their study material. You can download free versions online.
 - Have your older child teach a younger child about the subject they are studying. One of the best ways to learn material is to teach it to someone else.
 - Make a practice test for your child or have your child make up their own practice test - it is a great way to categorize important vs. unimportant information.
 - For difficult to learn vocabulary, have your child pick out one important word in the definition to focus on.
 - Use the online resources that most publishers offer with their print copies. These websites often have games and videos to enhance a student's learning.
 - Click [here](#) to watch a video on how to make homework into a game.



THE END