

Lifelong Learning Starts At Home

Connecting the Disconnect: The Learning Habit

Today's learning – different from ours

- Need to prepare our children for academic success and financial success
- Instilling in our homes a series of habits they carry on for the rest of their lives
- Different spin on the word HOMEWORK
- Homework habits and tools linked to various forms of media. Media can work against our children. Too much information can result in more confusion instead of clarity

Success or Failure focuses on routines that assist in developing our children emotionally, socially and academically. Carefully structured changes in family routines reward systems and expectations result in higher grades, increased self-esteem and organizational skills/

With a little bit of help, you can make the difference

- You have the opportunity to make a difference for YOUR child
- How you help vs what you actually can do varies from child to child
- Your involvement is making a statement to your child that school and homework are important.

Research confirms that students who consistently do their homework perform better in school than those that do not.

What is Homework? A solid method for strengthening and reinforcing skills. Homework also allows for more to be taught.

- Builds character with our children
- Develops independence
- Perseverance skills
- Responsibility

It teaches how:

- to take ownership
- learn how to identify priorities
- manage time commitments
- multitasking

Assignments should be well thought out and should be designed to actually help students review and practice what they learned during the school day. Practice is reinforcing skills. It is also used to introduce a new concept, research materials, and investigative skills to find answers build a base of knowledge from which the teacher will then instruct the following day. It may also spark interests and motivate a child to explore the subject.

Whose homework is it anyway?

It is Important to recognize that it is **NOT** your homework. It is your child's homework. It is your job to ensure that the necessary atmosphere, information, and materials needed for them to do their best is available and in place. Make it clear to you child that it is your expectation that your child completes their homework on their own each night. Maintaining consistent expectations you reinforce the belief that homework is a priority.

Supporting your child

- Determine how homework information is given to your child by their teacher
- Establish a method for your child to regularly transfer homework from school to home
- Establish a scheduled time for homework
- Set up a homework calendar
- We all need a special place to do our homework
- Gather all the necessary material ahead of time
- Most teachers establish a pattern of homework assignments
- Let your child decide what order homework needs to be done
- Discuss homework. Determine how much time it will take to finish homework let student decide what order he wants to do homework
- Praise your child's "stick-to-it-tiveness"
- Show an interest in what your child is doing
- Model a good example by reading or doing research while your child does his homework
- Take a look at your child's homework throughout the process and once completed. Review homework from time to time. If your child is struggling, allow them to review what they are doing and attempt to figure out where the breakdown is. Work may need to be chunked into smaller pieces.
- Take a look at all what you are asking of your child. Should try 1-2 sports or extracurricular activities a year. May need to assist in making a schedule or priorities. All will interfere with homework time.
- Never use homework as a form of discipline

Handling the "I don't want to's"

- Visual Timer
- Clock is a new way to look at time dedicated to homework
- Chunk homework
- Develop reward system for doing

Backpack Dump and Backpack Station

- Schedule days to check the backpack and dump the backpack

Encouraging the Learning Habit
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- Always put it in the same place