

# Homework Helpers

## Homework

Home is where young children first learn how to learn. That's why homework - school work done at home on a regular basis - is an important part of every child's school life. By doing homework, young students acquire study skills, work habits, and attitudes that pave the way for lifelong learning. (Better Learning - Spring 2000)

Homework is an expansion and enrichment of skills taught to the individual students. It should be a joint effort from the students, parents and teacher.

The student is responsible for:

- Submitting assignments on time, writing down the assignments and taking home the appropriate work materials
- Doing neat and complete work
- Completing assignments, and
- Turning in completed work to the teachers

The parent is encouraged to:

- Share an interest in the child's work
- Provide a suitable place and time for study
- Allow enough time to do work
- Reinforce and review skills that may have been forgotten
- Motivate the child to do his/her best
- Praise a job completed
- Ensure that homework has been completed with quality

## TIPS TO HELP YOUR CHILDREN DEVELOP GOOD STUDY SKILLS

1. Let your children know that schoolwork is their responsibility. You are there to support and answer their questions not do their homework for them.

2. Set aside a designated area for children to study. Being in this spot helps children focus and gives them a sense of purpose.

3. Establish a scheduled study time each day that fits in with your family's routines.

4. Balance homework with lots of vigorous physical play. (Better Learning - Spring 2000)

## SEVEN HIDDEN VALUES OF HOMEWORK

1. **Responsibility** - It is important for students (not parents) to take ownership of homework. Often parents get too tangled up in homework when it really belongs to the child.
2. **Autonomy** - A sense that a child can stand on his own feet and successfully complete a home assignment. The child is not tied to a parent at homework time.
3. **Perseverance** - learning is hard work and each child must sweat a bit. At the end of hard work, there is life.
4. **Time management** - Productive use of one's time. Instead of a parent getting into a hassle over homework starting time, try setting limits. ( eg. I want homework completed before 8:00 p.m.)
5. **Initiative** - Children decide when its time to stop play in order to do homework.
6. **Self-reliance** - I rely on myself to complete a project or assignment.
7. **Resourcefulness** - When we allow children to problem solve, create, and invent by themselves, they often come up with exciting ideas

