



Helping Your Child with Homework

How can you help your child with his homework? First, remember it's not your homework. If you do the work or assume responsibility for getting it done, you are not helping your child. Try the suggestions below for providing guidance while letting your child remain in control.

Make homework a priority

Show your child how important education is to you:

- With your child, set up a daily routine for completing homework at a specific time. The entire family can be supportive by designating a household-wide quiet time for reading and completing homework.
- Ensure that your child has a quiet place to work with sufficient light and the tools to get the job done, like pencils, paper, a ruler and a dictionary.
- Never use homework as a form of punishment.

Be involved

- Talk to your child's teacher early in the year to establish homework expectations. Ask your child questions, such as "Do you understand what you need to do?"
- Provide encouragement by praising effort, rewarding progress and displaying good work. Find a positive, constructive way to provide criticism.
- Review your child's homework for completeness.

Teach important skills

Instead of telling your child answers, use homework to help your child to learn to:

- concentrate and solve problems
- use resources
- divide large tasks into smaller steps
- get organized and plan
- persevere and complete a task

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