

Parents and Guardians,

Help your child improve homework skills with these helpful hints.

- **Create a personal homework space –**

Tips:

1. Create a work area that includes necessary resources such a dictionary, thesaurus, and pencil sharpener.
2. Make sure the area has enough clear space to spread out books, papers, and work materials.
3. A desk, a table, or bean bags in a corner can make good work areas.
4. Allow your child to decorate the area. Try to encourage creativity without clutter or distractions such as toys, a TV, or video games.

Your child will have the opportunity to concentrate and accomplish more if he is comfortable in his “personal space.”

- **Have your child take care of physical and emotional needs before sitting down to do homework –**

1. Offer a nutritious snack with water or fruit juice.
2. Talk with your child about the day’s events.
3. Have your child use the restroom.
4. Take 5 minutes to stretch muscles and get rid of any excess energy.

With all of these needs taken care of your child should be able to better concentrate on her homework.

- **Make sure all resources are ready and within reach –** Make a supply checklist to include pencils, pens, the homework directions and worksheets, books, and whatever else might be needed. Less getting up and down results in more work getting done.

- **Stay in touch with your child’s teacher –** Find out the teacher’s system for keeping assignments neat and on time. Support the system by making sure to do your part. Many teachers use assignment notebooks, folders, or sign-off sheets.

- **Have a homework help backup plan –** Research possible homework help solutions such as an internet site, local homework phone service, or an older child.

