Homework Tips for Parents

Homework is important, but helping children with homework isn’t always easy. Here are some ways you can make homework easier for everyone!

**Study the same things in different ways and places**
Help your child learn about new words or content in a variety of ways. Talk about new vocabulary words several times over the course of the week, in different settings. This will help enrich your child’s understanding of the word.

**Mix up the study time**
If your child prefers to do a little math, a little reading, a little word study and then back to math, that’s okay! Mixing up the practice time may leave a greater impression on your learner.

**Space out the learning**
If your child has a big test coming up next week, help her study a little bit each day rather than cramming it in the night before. An hour or so every other day, spacing out the learning, is a better way to really learn the material.

**Help your child get organized**
Help your child pick out a special homework notebook or folder, and make sure your child has homework supplies, such as:
- pencils
- pens
- writing paper
- a dictionary

**Show your child that you think homework is important**
Ask your child about her homework each day, and check to see that it is completed. Tell your child that you are proud of the work she is doing.

**Help your child without doing the homework**
It’s important to answer questions if you can – but remember that homework is supposed to help children learn and that doing your child’s homework does not help in the long run.

**Talk with your child’s teacher**
Find out what the teacher’s homework rules are. If your child has a problem completing or understanding homework, call or e-mail the teacher to talk about the issue.

For more tips, see “Helping Your Child Succeed in School.” www.ReadingRockets.org/article/375