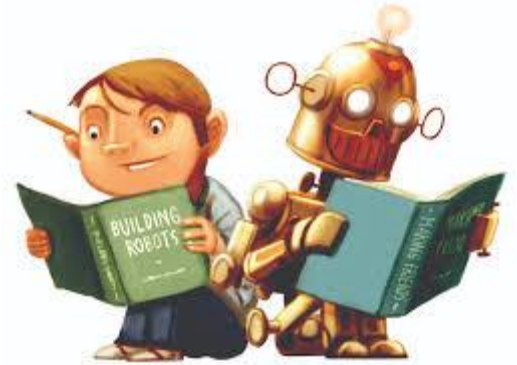


How Can I Help My Child With Homework?

First, avoid doing the homework yourself! Doing homework for your child sends the message that he or she is incapable of doing the work and that perfection is the main objective. It also denies your child the opportunity to develop skills and gain understanding from the experience. Remember, doing homework should help children plan, manage, and complete work on their own. Second, familiarize yourself with the school's homework policy so that you know what is expected of you and your child. Here are some other ways you can help your child get the most out of homework.



- ✓ Exhibit a positive attitude toward homework in what you say and do—show your child that you think homework is important and education comes first. Your attitude not only has a direct, positive effect on your child's attitude toward homework but also can affect his or her academic achievement.
- ✓ Encourage your child to take notes on homework task when they are given.
- ✓ Discuss homework assignments with your child to become familiar with what he or she is studying. Talk together about the topic before beginning, and do short quizzes on the day before an assessment.
- ✓ Limit mobile, tablet or console use by agreeing ahead of time what will be allowed.
- ✓ Plan homework schedules and routines that allow some free time when assignments are completed.
- ✓ Make sure your child is well rested and fed and has had time to wind down after school. Also, avoid scheduling homework right before bedtime when children will be too tired or feel pressured to finish. For long-term projects, mark plans and deadlines on a calendar.
- ✓ Monitor television and radio use. If your child's favourite show comes on during scheduled study time, arrange to record the show if possible.
- ✓ Do some assignments or questions together when your child asks for help. Sometimes children need help learning how to break down large tasks into manageable pieces.
- ✓ Stay nearby—be available to help if asked, but avoid imposing your help or your way of doing something.
- ✓ Check completed assignments and review homework that has been marked and returned. Avoid negative comments, but contact the teacher if your child

consistently gets 25 percent or more wrong on homework problems and tasks or if he or she never seems to have any homework.

- ✓ Provide your child with a convenient, quiet, and comfortable work area that is well lit, free of family traffic, and stocked with the materials needed to complete homework.
- ✓ Some children study better with music or background noise, so try to accommodate your child's preferred learning style.
- ✓ Encourage the use of reference materials.

Many teachers and parents agree that homework helps to develop children's initiative and responsibility — attributes that play a vital role in their long-term academic development and fulfills the expectations of students, parents and the public. Homework helps younger children develop the strong study skills necessary for high academic achievement later.

You may also find it helpful to talk to your child's teacher if your child develops a consistently negative attitude toward homework, continually fails to fully understand or complete homework, or struggles to make any academic progress. Homework is an essential component of the total educational program. It should enhance the intellectual development of your child while creating greater interest and success in learning and studying.

The MORE
that you read,
the MORE things
you will know.
The MORE that you
LEARN,
the MORE places you'll go.

