

Tips for Students:

1. *Pick a good time to do homework.* Try to do your homework at the same time every day- right after school, just before dinner, or right after dinner. Try not to leave homework until just before you go to bed.
2. *Remember to make time for long-term projects.* Think about using a weekend morning or afternoon for working on big projects, especially if the project involves getting together with classmates. If you need special stuff for a project, make sure to tell your parents to get it for you well in advance.
3. *Spend more time on hard homework than easy homework.* If you know which assignment is easy and which is hard, do the hard work first. Take a short break if you are having trouble keeping your mind on an assignment.
4. *If homework gets too hard, ask for help.* Only ask for help if you really need it.
5. *Find a place that makes studying easy.* Collect up all the books and supplies you will need (and your snack) before you begin to work. Do your homework in the same place every day.

Suggestions for Parents:

1. *Be a stage manager.* Make sure your child has a quiet, well-lit place to do homework. Make sure the needed materials (paper, pencils, dictionary) are available.
2. *Be a motivator.* Homework provides the great opportunity for you to tell your child how important school is. Be positive about homework. The attitude you express about homework will influence the attitude your child requires.
3. *Be a role model.* When your child does homework, do not sit and watch TV. If your child is reading, you read, too. If your child is doing math, balance your checkbook. Help your child see that the skills they are practicing are related to things you do as an adult.
4. *Be a monitor.* Watch your child for signs of failure and frustration. If your child asks for help, provide guidance, not answers. If frustration sets in, suggest a short break.
5. *Be a mentor.* When the teacher asks that you play a role in homework, do it. If homework is meant to be done alone, refrain from helping. Homework is a great way for kids to develop independent, lifelong learning skills. Over-involvement by parents can be a bad thing.

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