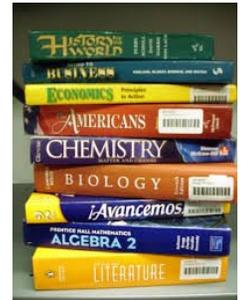


STEPS TO Homework Success



When students do homework, they reinforce what they learned at school and expand their knowledge. But they learn more than the information in their assignments—they build study skills and habits that they will need throughout middle school, high school, college, on the job and life in general. Here are a few ways you can provide support to help them succeed.



BEFORE

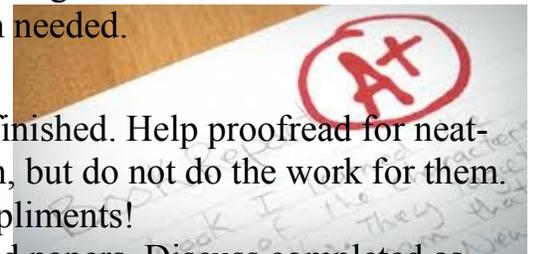
- **Create a study area**—let your child decide where they work best
- **Get assignments**—use the SMS student planner to keep track of work
- **Make a daily plan**—help set up a plan to tackle long and short term assignments
- **Break projects into smaller steps**—use a calendar to stay on track. Completing small tasks along the way makes the larger task easier to tackle.
- **Team with teachers**—Encourage your child to check teacher websites routinely for assignments. Store email addresses and contact information in your phone for easy reference. Contact the teacher if you have questions regarding assignments.

DURING

- **Keep a routine**—try to do homework at approximately the same time each day
- **Increase concentration**—Turn off TV's, phones and iPods during study time
- **Have family quiet time**—Focus on quiet activities during your child's study time. Read along side of them, go for a walk, or do other peaceful activities.
- **Provide support**—Help guide them, especially if they get stuck. Offer your assistance.
- **Give reminders**—Simple prompts go along way. Watch for signs of frustration or too much time being spent on homework. Ask teachers for advice when needed.

AFTER

- **Check homework**—Help check over assignments when finished. Help proofread for neatness or errors. If found, encourage child to review work again, but do not do the work for them.
- **Boost confidence**—Praise your child and give warm compliments!
- **Find ways to improve**—Look for teacher notes on graded papers. Discuss completed assignments with your child.
- **Talk about learning**—Car rides are a great place to have an open short discussion.
- **Save assignments**—Create a filing system, use colors. Display completed work.



Tip: The key is for parents to stay involved and monitor your child's homework without doing it for him/her. With your guidance and encouragement, your child will learn how to work independently and plan for success.