



## Make Learning a Priority in your Home

- Attend school functions and parent conferences.
- Be aware of grade-level and teacher standards for work and behavior.
- Provide a place in your home for all papers that require parental attention.
- Get your student a homework planner to record assignments from every class and stay organized.
- Review your student's homework planner with them every day to help ensure homework is ready to turn into the teacher by the due date.
- Encourage your student to move for about 15 minutes (e.g., dance, shoot hoops, run, jump rope) before tackling homework to help prepare the brain to study.
- Schedule a regular homework and study time every day.
- Set rules of behavior during study time.
- Provide necessary supplies (e.g. pencils, pens, scratch paper, calculator).
- Find a designated study spot where your child can pay attention to their work without distraction. This may include a desk in a quiet room, a spot on the floor in their bedroom, or the dining room table. The student spot should be somewhere they are comfortable but won't be disturbed.
- Determine the level of noise that works best for your student. Some kids do their best work in a noise free environment while others need background sounds to help them study (e.g., soft music, a fan, white noise). There is no correct scenario. Do what works best for your student.
- Encourage your student to stay on task and complete work and praise them for doing so.
- When appropriate, encourage your student to work independently on homework but ensure them you are available if needed for questions or concerns.
- Allow your student to take regular, short study breaks. Concentrating for long time periods can cause the mind to wander. Have them get up and move around for 5 to 10 minutes (e.g., jumping jacks, short walk, dance). When they return to their studies, the student should be ready to focus again.
- Teach your student good study habits such as reviewing the material several times over a few days, instead of cramming the night before a test. Your student should do better on a test using this method and should remember the information much longer.
- Encourage your student to work on the assignment they find most difficult first when they have the most mental energy and focus.

- Turn off student phones, messaging applications, TV, and any other devices that may disturb students when studying.
- Teach your student to ask for help if they are struggling with something. When you are not able to help your child resolve an issue, encourage them to talk to their teacher for guidance.
- Check your student's work and provide immediate feedback. Do not fix their mistakes for them but rather try to help them learn from them.
- Suggest they make flashcards. Flashcards are great for memorizing information such as new vocabulary, math facts, and state capitals. They can be used to study for quizzes, then saved to be used again for unit tests.
- Encourage your student to take a couple of minutes to speak with you about what they learned in class and the purpose of their homework assignment. This helps students learn to summarize and absorb the new information.
- Provide praise and positive reinforcement when homework is completed. Let them know they should be proud of their accomplishments.
- Check to be sure your student's backpack and their "take-home folder" is emptied daily. Ensure any needed supplies are replenished, and parent paperwork is completed and returned. Encourage your student to place homework and other items in the backpack daily to return to school.



The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, creed, age, national origin, ancestry, pregnancy, marital status or parental status, sexual orientation, or ability and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts of America and other designated youth groups.