

Top 10 Homework Tips

Kids are more successful in school when parents take an active interest in their homework — it shows kids that what they do is important.

Of course, helping with homework shouldn't mean spending hours hunched over a desk. Parents can be supportive by demonstrating study and organization skills, explaining a tricky problem, or just encouraging kids to take a break. And who knows? Parents might even learn a thing or two!

Here are some tips to guide the way:

1. **Know the teachers — and what they're looking for.** Attend school events, such as parent-teacher conferences, to meet your child's teachers. Ask about their homework policies and how you should be involved.
2. **Set up a homework-friendly area.** Make sure kids have a well-lit place to complete homework. Keep supplies — paper, pencils, glue, scissors — within reach.
3. **Schedule a regular study time.** Some kids work best in the afternoon, following a snack and play period; others may prefer to wait until after dinner.
4. **Help them make a plan.** On heavy homework nights or when there's an especially hefty assignment to tackle, encourage your child break up the work into manageable chunks. Create a work schedule for the night if necessary — and take time for a 15-minute break every hour, if possible.
5. **Keep distractions to a minimum.** This means no TV, loud music, or phone calls. (Occasionally, though, a phone call to a classmate about an assignment can be helpful.)
6. **Make sure kids do their own work.** They won't learn if they don't think for themselves and make their own mistakes. Parents can make suggestions and help with directions. But it's a kid's job to do the learning.
7. **Be a motivator and monitor.** Ask about assignments, quizzes, and tests. Give encouragement, check completed homework, and make yourself available for questions and concerns.
8. **Set a good example.** Do your kids ever see you diligently balancing your budget or reading a book? Kids are more likely to follow their parents' examples than their advice.
9. **Praise their work and efforts.** Post an aced test or art project on the refrigerator. Mention academic achievements to relatives.
10. **If there are continuing problems with homework, get help.** Talk about it with your child's teacher. Ask the teacher to fill out a Classroom Connection Form and send it to the Family Resource Center. Some kids have trouble seeing the board and may need glasses; others might need an evaluation for a learning problem or attention disorder.



Keeping Parents in Touch | 2014-2015 CALENDAR

8 First Day of School (Students)
27 Progress Reports (1st Six Weeks)
30 Jamboree (Oakdale)

| AUGUST 2014 | | | | | | |
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| FEBRUARY 2015 | | | | | | |
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14 Valentine's Day
16 American Heritage (No School)
17 Mardi Gras (No School)
18 End of 4th Six Weeks/
24 Report Cards (4th Six Weeks)

1 Labor Day
2 Teacher Staff Development Day (No School)
18 End of 1st Six Weeks
19 Fair Day (No School)
25 Report Cards (1st Six Weeks)

| SEPTEMBER 2014 | | | | | | |
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| MARCH 2015 | | | | | | |
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| 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | |
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11 Progress Reports (5th Six Weeks)
18 PHASE I Testing

10 Progress Reports (2nd Six Weeks)
13 Columbus Day
31 End of 2nd Six Weeks
 Halloween

| OCTOBER 2014 | | | | | | |
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| APRIL 2015 | | | | | | |
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1 End of 5th Six Weeks
3-10 Easter Holidays
15 Report Cards (5th Six Weeks)
30 Progress Reports (6th Six Weeks)

1 End of 2nd Six Weeks
6 Report Cards (2nd Six Weeks)
11 Veterans Day
21 Progress Reports (3rd Six Weeks)
24-28 Thanksgiving Holiday

| NOVEMBER 2014 | | | | | | |
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| MAY 2015 | | | | | | |
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11 Mother's Day
22 End of 6th Six Weeks and Report Cards
26 Memorial Day

19 End of 3rd Six Weeks
22-31 Christmas Holidays

| DECEMBER 2014 | | | | | | |
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| JUNE 2015 | | | | | | |
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15 Father's Day
Visit our Title I Webpage:
 Just go to www.allen.k12.la.us and click on the Title I button at the bottom of the page and you are in **OR** go to:
http://www.allen.k12.la.us/schools/TitleI/Title_I_index.htm

1-2 Christmas Holidays
8 Report Cards (3rd Six Weeks)
16 Teacher Staff Development Day (No School)
19 Martin Luther King Day (No School)
26 Progress Reports (4th Six Weeks)

| JANUARY 2015 | | | | | | |
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| JULY 2015 | | | | | | |
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4 Independence Day
The Family Resource Center is open for your convenience Monday – Friday: 8:00-4:00.