

Parenting Tips
from
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Opening times : Monday to Friday 12 PM to 4 PM

Helping with Homework

Homework is a common expectation for most primary aged children. The nature of the activities will vary between different schools and for different ages so it is best to discuss expectations with your child's teacher. While requirements may vary most educators agree that reading is the most valuable homework a child can do and should become a daily habit. Parents can include establishing a predictable routine, encouraging effective use of time and helping them to be organised.

Bright Ideas

- Establish a predictable routine. If homework is done at the same time each night, getting started is usually less of an issue.
- Make homework time as enjoyable as possible. When sharing a book make yourself comfortable, be involved in the story and enjoy yourself. Don't make reading a test.
- Establish a good working environment for students. Make sure they have a quiet area away from distractions that is well lit and with good ventilation. A table or a desk makes a good workspace, although don't be surprised if they spread their work out all over the kitchen table. Some children just love to be around others.
- Keep explanations simple and practical when helping a child. If you become upset or frustrated and the atmosphere becomes tense, stop helping.
- If your child has a problem, talk about the best way to find a solution. Perhaps between the two of you it can be worked out.
- Be realistic and don't expect to solve all homework difficulties. When in doubt send a note to your child's teacher letting him or her know the problem. They will appreciate being informed.

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