If you expect your child to be well educated, you have the responsibility of making sure your child gets educated, starting at home, with some basic fundamentals.
— President George W. Bush

The hours in a school day and the amount of time a teacher can spend individually with students are limited. As a result, teachers need the understanding and support of parents and families in supporting classroom instruction and learning outside school hours. Parents can lend this support by taking an interest in the homework that their children bring home and finding the most effective ways to help them with assignments.

Homework has been part of students’ lives since the beginning of formal schooling in the United States. It is important because it can improve children’s thinking and memory. It can help them develop positive study habits and skills that will serve them well throughout their lives. Homework also encourages children to use time well, learn independently, and take responsibility for their work.

Helping children with homework has benefits for parents and families as well. It can, for example, provide opportunities for parents to see what their children are learning in school and help families communicate with their children and school staff.

All parents, regardless of their own challenges, want their children to do well in school and receive a quality education. The No Child Left Behind Act, the national effort to improve education, aims to make this a reality by holding schools accountable for children’s learning. This brochure is based on the larger Help your Child series of publications for parents and families, which is designed to provide parents with the latest research and practical information to help them support their children and ensure their children’s success in school and in life.

why is homework important?

In the early grades, homework can help children develop strong study habits and positive attitudes. From third through sixth grade, small amounts of homework gradually increase each year, which may support improved academic achievement. In seventh grade and beyond, students who complete more homework tend to earn better grades, on average, than those who do less homework.

Homework helps students to:
- Review and practice what they have covered in class;
- Prepare for class the next day;
- Learn to use resources, such as libraries, reference materials, and Web sites;
- Organize subjects more fully than classroom time permits;
- General learning and prepare for tests and earn better grades, on average, than students who do less homework; and
- Improve children’s thinking and memory. It can help them develop positive study habits and skills that will serve them well throughout their lives. Homework also encourages children to use time well, learn independently, and take responsibility for their work.

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tips for parents

You can do many things at home to help your child that you value education and homework.

Set a regular time and place for homework.
-瑞松 misunderstands;
- Provide supplies and library resources;
- Discuss what your child is learning at school;
- Review and practice;
- Explore;
- Prepare;
- Rem ove distractions;
- Set a regular time and place for homework; and
- Talk with each of your child’s teachers early in the school year.

Talk with each of your child’s teachers early in the school year. Let teachers know that you want to be kept informed about what goes on at school.

Contact teachers as soon as you suspect your child has a homework problem. Schools have a responsibility to keep you informed about your child’s performance and behavior. On the other hand, if the teacher discloses something about the student, you should make sure to take it seriously. Teachers need to balance the need to help your child succeed with the privacy rights of other students.

Request a meeting with teachers to discuss homework problems.
- Let teachers know your child has trouble with homework—along with a wide range of other subjects—visit the Help your Child series Web site at www.ed.gov/parents/landing.html.

- Let teachers know whether your child finds the assignments too hard or too easy.
- Let teachers know that you want to be kept informed about what goes on at school.
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