

Developing Good Study Habits

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It's your child's homework, not yours! Doing assignments for your child will not help her understand and use information. It may also hinder her confidence in her abilities. Similarly, it may mask problems she is having in a subject. Instead,

Help your child make a schedule

- Encourage her to write out assignments to help keep track of tasks and due dates.
- Help your child manage time to complete assignments.
- If your child has a long-term project due, make a chart that shows all the steps she will need to complete it on time, including how much time she expects to spend on each step:
 - Selecting a topic
 - Doing research by looking up books and other materials on the topic or taking notes
 - Figuring out what questions to discuss
 - Drafting an outline
 - Writing a rough draft
 - Revising and completing the final draft

Help your child get started on research reports or other long term assignments

- Take your child to the library. If your child is using a computer for online references, make sure she is getting the help needed to use the Internet properly and to find age-appropriate websites.
- After your child has completed the research, ask her to tell you the points she wants to get across in the report.

Talk with your child about how to take a test

- Be sure she understands how important it is to read instructions carefully, keep track of time, and avoid spending too much time on any one question.
- Give practice tests.
- Help your child avoid last minute studying.