



Establish Clear Routines

Establishing daily routines for homework completion will help foster a sense of order.



Establish a homework time period when your child will focus purely on work.

Choose the time that is best for your child:

- Immediately after school - assignment is fresh in your child's mind.
- After school break (healthy snack), then homework.

Plan for 2 different time periods and write the plan down:

1. *"The Usual Day Plan"* - a plan for most days.
2. *"The Unusual Day Plan"* - a plan for unusual days when sports, after school activities, and parent schedules interfere with completing homework.

Declutter

- Empty backpack daily or when needed.
- Empty folders daily or when needed.

Provide visual aids - calendar, clock, planner, photograph of "organized space".



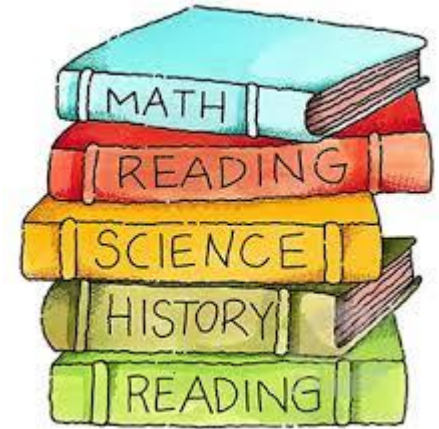
LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION!

- Choose a room, space or table designated for your child's homework (does not need to be a large space).
- An adult should be available to check in periodically.
- Choose a place with minimal distractions (away from the television).
- Space should be clear of distractions both visual and auditory.

Tips to Avoid Distractions

- Turn off the computer (unless needed for assignment) and all other electronic devices (cellphone, television, hand held electronic game devices, i-pads).
- Clear workspace of distractions on table (video games, magazines, doodles).
- Place a trifold or a folder to make an "office."
- Think about having your child complete their "independent reading" in another space to change the environment (somewhere comfortable and appealing).

Organization Station



Homework Organization Strategies for Parents

Livingston Public Schools
Homework Parent Academy
February 21, 2019



Homework Center

All supplies should be in arms reach of the study space.

- ✓ Pencils
- ✓ Pens
- ✓ Colored markers
- ✓ Colored pencils
- ✓ Highlighters
- ✓ Ruler
- ✓ Scissors
- ✓ Paper: graph, construction, scrap
- ✓ Glue stick/liquid glue
- ✓ Sticky notes
- ✓ Stapler/staples
- ✓ Calculator
- ✓ Laptop/computer (if needed for an assignment.)
- ✓ Timer

Other Supplies

- Supply box or portable bin to store supplies
- Monthly Calendar
- Folder/Binder to store classroom resources (multiplication charts, sound boards, hundred charts, story maps)

Rewards

After work is completed schedule a pleasurable activity that motivates your child to finish the homework. (Examples: Playing a game with the family, listening to a favorite story, talking to a friend)

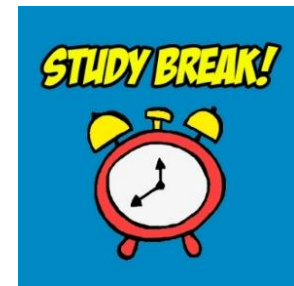


Incentive Programs

- Simple Incentive - Remind your child of a fun activity to do when homework is completed. (Examples: a favorite television show, video or computer game, talking on the phone or instant messaging, playing a game with a parent)
- Elaborate Incentive – This involves more planning and more work on the part of the parents, but in some cases may be necessary. (Example: Earning points that could be used to “purchase” a privilege or establishing a system that provides a greater reward for accomplishing difficult homework. This system should be developed together so your child’s input gives him/her a sense of control and ownership.

Developing Incentive Systems

- ✓ Set a goal - The goal should relate directly to a problem behavior that needs to be changed.
- ✓ Decide on a possible reward - A menu/list of rewards for your child to choose.
- ✓ Develop a point system in which points can be earned for the goal behavior and traded in for the reward your child wants to earn.



Study Breaks

- Schedule breaks if needed- Movement will help your child refocus their attention.
- Set a timer for breaks.
- Start with the easiest subject first.
- When creating the daily homework schedule, it is useful to identify when a break will be taken. (Building in choice helps keep children motivated and reduces power struggles between parent and child.)
- Be sure to discuss how long the break will be and what will be done during the break (Examples: get a snack, text/call a friend, play one level on a video game.)