

# Homework Checklist for Parents

## Environment:

- \_\_\_ Choose a homework area.
  - Quiet location
  - Low traffic area
- \_\_\_ Reduce the number of visual distractions. Move away from windows & doors.
- \_\_\_ Remove distractions from the homework area.
  - TV
  - Internet
  - Radio
  - Cell Phones
  - Stereo
  - Etc...
- \_\_\_ Make sure the homework area is well lit.
- \_\_\_ Provide a table or desk. Help keep that work surface uncluttered.
- \_\_\_ Have a few extra supplies in the homework area (pens, pencils, paper, dictionary. . .).
- \_\_\_ If there is no environment in the home conducive for completing homework, check out the library or community center.
- \_\_\_ Have a designated area for students to place completed assignments to be returned to school.

## Homework Plan:

- \_\_\_ Set simple homework expectations:
  - Stay on task
  - Finish task
  - Meet task requirements
- \_\_\_ Allow child to take short breaks between tasks, when necessary. Snacks may be appropriate.
- \_\_\_ Set a consistent time for completing homework and stick to it every day.
- \_\_\_ Even when your child doesn't have homework, make homework time an academic time. Have the child read, work on an educational project, review for a quiz/test, or get extra practice with math facts.
- \_\_\_ Parents should do quiet activities during homework time. (Turn off TV, read a book, pay bills, etc...)

## Parent's Role:

- \_\_\_ Teach your child to organize the homework by subject, according to a plan.
  - Work from hardest subject/task to easiest subject/task.
  - Work from easiest subject/task to hardest subject/task.
  - Alternate between hardest and easiest subjects/tasks.
- \_\_\_ Encourage the student to follow a less desirable task with a more desirable task. Make completion of the first task necessary to perform the second task.

\_\_\_ Follow Homework ABCs.

- A = All By Myself:

Have students do their homework in private. Monitor from a distance.

- B = Back Off:

Help only when asked and in 2 situations.

1 Child is stuck after really trying

2 Homework is finished and needs looked over

- C = Call it Quits at a Reasonable Hour:

Set a consistent deadline for homework being completed.

\_\_\_ Provide authentic verbal praise when your child completes a task, answers a question correctly, figures out a difficult problem, shows improvement in penmanship, etc...

\_\_\_ Provide a tangible award for completion of homework. This could be nightly or weekly, depending on the child.

\_\_\_ Review finished homework for completeness and accuracy.

### **Communication:**

\_\_\_ Have student bring all work home each day, completed and not completed.

\_\_\_ Compare work with student planner to determine which work needs completed.

\_\_\_ Check your child's planner to see if the teacher wrote a note. Respond when appropriate.

\_\_\_ If your child's teacher allows it, get his/her telephone number and/or e-mail address. Communicate with him or her as necessary.