



4-H School-Age Child Care
University of California Cooperative Extension

PARENT STYLES II

Tips for Busy Parents

DEALING WITH HOMEWORK

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When you help your children learn at home, they almost always do better at school.

Children who are assisted at home are more likely to:

- ★ attend school regularly
- ★ respect school rules and routines
- ★ take their homework seriously
- ★ do their homework
- ★ get better grades

You can easily be involved in your child's school work by setting up the right atmosphere in your home -- one that shows your child that you think school is important and you want to help her to do well.

Here are some everyday tips to help your child make the most out of homework:

- ★ Go over homework with your child to see if she needs any help.
- ★ Set a time with your child to do homework and then stick to it.
- ★ Talk to your child's teacher about the amount of time your child is expected to do homework.

- ★ When it's "homework time", make it a policy that everybody in the family will be engaged in a quiet activity.
- ★ Set up a "school corner" for studying.
- ★ Make sure your child has all the materials that she needs before starting homework.

Show your children you think school is important by:

- ★ buying a book for a present
- ★ insisting your child go to school everyday
- ★ reading aloud to him or her
- ★ visiting the library or bookmobile
- ★ visiting your child's teacher(s)
- ★ playing games that sharpen thinking skills

Be sure to TURN OFF THE TV.



Resource: Adapted from University of Delaware Cooperative Extension, "Families Matter!" Issue #14, and "Making the Best of Schools" (pg. 231-232) by Jeannie Oakes and Martin Lipton.

HOMework CENTER

WHAT YOU NEED:

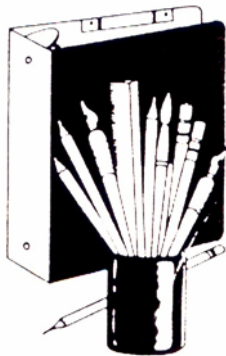
A shelf, corner of desk or table, etc.

WHAT TO DO:

- ★ Make a homework center, close to where your child does his homework. This can be a shelf, a corner of a desk or table, etc.
- ★ When your child gets home from school, help him get into the habit of putting his homework in this place.

IDEAS FOR THE "CENTER":

- ☆ A special caddy to hold pencils and other supplies
- ☆ Folders, school/library books
- ☆ Collectibles he regularly needs for school
- ☆ After school supplies



When your child finishes his homework, ask him to pack up what he needs for tomorrow in his backpack and leave it in a designated place (near the front door is good).

Adapted from: Ellen Kalvan, *Taming the Homework Monster*.