

Accept All Responses As Effort

A long day at school, what they had to eat, not enough sleep, not feeling well can influence their performance levels. Accommodations like reading the assignment to the child or working the problem out together is a more productive approach to homework completion than disciplining the child.



Be Careful How You Say It

All too often we say thanks to our children in hopes of making them feel better about themselves, but sometimes what we say can shift the task at hand to the child's self worth. "You're just like me; I can't spell very well either" or "How do you expect to go to the next grade if you don't know how to multiply?" "These are parental fears and are very normal, but voicing them during homework sessions does not encourage successful completion of assignments. Try saying things like "I know it was difficult but you stuck to this assignment very well. I'm proud of you." This type of comment doesn't imply that the child knows that material or can complete assignments independently but it does point out the child's strengths and that is encouraging.

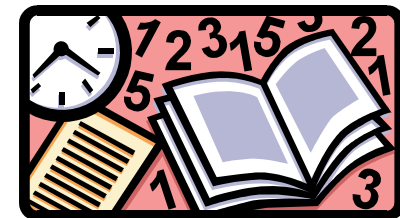
Box 280
Killarney, MB R0K 1G0
Phone: 204 523-7531

TURTLE MOUNTAIN SCHOOL DIVISION



The future is in our hands.

Homework Tips For Parents



It is a tradition that parents assist children with homework as part of the evening routine in many homes. Many will agree to the fond memories of homework sessions, positive memories of homework being done independently while mom or dad added enriching information or clarification of a misunderstood question or point. Parents can assist in making homework sessions fond memories. Follow these successful tips and make homework manageable in your family routine.



Establish The Environment

It is important that all family members agree to the importance of homework. Establish rules for reducing distractions: no friends over, TV and stereo turned off or volume is low, no video games, limit telephone calls. Limited distractions provide the mood and environment for learning.



Agree On Who Will Assist With The Homework

Your mood can reflect on your approach and patience with your child. Not everyone has the required ability to be patient, fair, flexible or objective everyday. It is best to decide prior to the homework session, who is going to assist. If it is a single parent home, perhaps enlisting the aid of an older sibling or tutor to assist on designated days.



Establish A Routine & Set Goals

Designate a homework area and time; this establishes routine for the child and reduces poor organization and procrastination habits. Identify what parts of the assignment the child can do independently and what will require assistance.



You as a parent know you child's tolerance levels better than anyone; set session goals according to what you know your child can handle.

Start Sessions With Success

You have already determined what part of the assignment the child can do independently, so start there. This gives the child the confidence to tackle the more challenging task of the assignment. The next step is to tackle the parts where something is known; if your child can do single digit addition but struggles with them go back and review how single digit addition relates to double digit addition. It is important to reinforce relationships between tasks to help the student generalize what they just learned.

