

# Helping Your Child Have a Successful School Year



# Objectives

- Homework
- Test expectations
- Grade expectations
- How to handle school problems



# Making Homework Manageable



Colorado Parent Information and Resource Center  
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[www.cpirc.org](http://www.cpirc.org)



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# Making Homework Manageable

Students who are successful in school have parents who take time to work with them at home and support what they are learning in school.



# Homework



**Why it matters.**

# Why is homework important?

- Homework is the best opportunity for the school and the family to be connected.
- Homework helps to develop good study habits.
- Homework fosters positive attitudes towards school and a love for learning.



# Getting into the homework habit

21 days in a row  
to make a habit

**Our goal is to help our children  
get into the habit of doing  
homework every night.**



# How do we help our children develop good study habits?

- Set up a positive home environment that encourages learning.
- Select an area where your children will do homework every day.



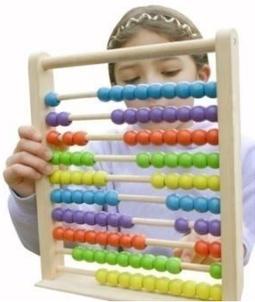
# Setting up a home environment that encourages learning

- Have a small box of supplies available.
- Have a **consistent** area where your children can keep their school work and supplies.



# Getting into the homework habit

- Establish a consistent time each day for homework.
- Decide as a family the best time to do homework each day.



# Getting into the homework habit

- Check your child's backpack with him/her every day.



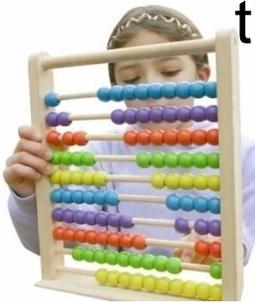
# Minimize distractions

- Television and radio are off.
- Keep other children busy



# Fostering responsibility and independence

- Have your child work alone, but make yourself available to answer questions or provide guidance if needed.
- Ask questions about the assignment so you know what your child is doing.
- Help them to recognize their own mistakes and make corrections on their own, but provide help if they need it.



# Making the home/school connection

- Before starting the homework, have a conversation with your child about what he/she learned in school that day.



# Ask questions

- **Ask very specific questions.**
  - What book did you read in school today?
  - What did you like best about the book?
  - What was the problem and how did the characters solve it?



# Make reading part of your children's daily homework

- Set up a small area in your home with books to read.
- Have your child read at least 15 to 20 minutes per day, preferably with an adult, outside of homework time.



# Why Independent Reading?

“The more you read,  
the better you get at it;  
the better you get at it,  
the more you like it; and  
the more you like it,  
the more you do it. “

*--Trelease (1995)*

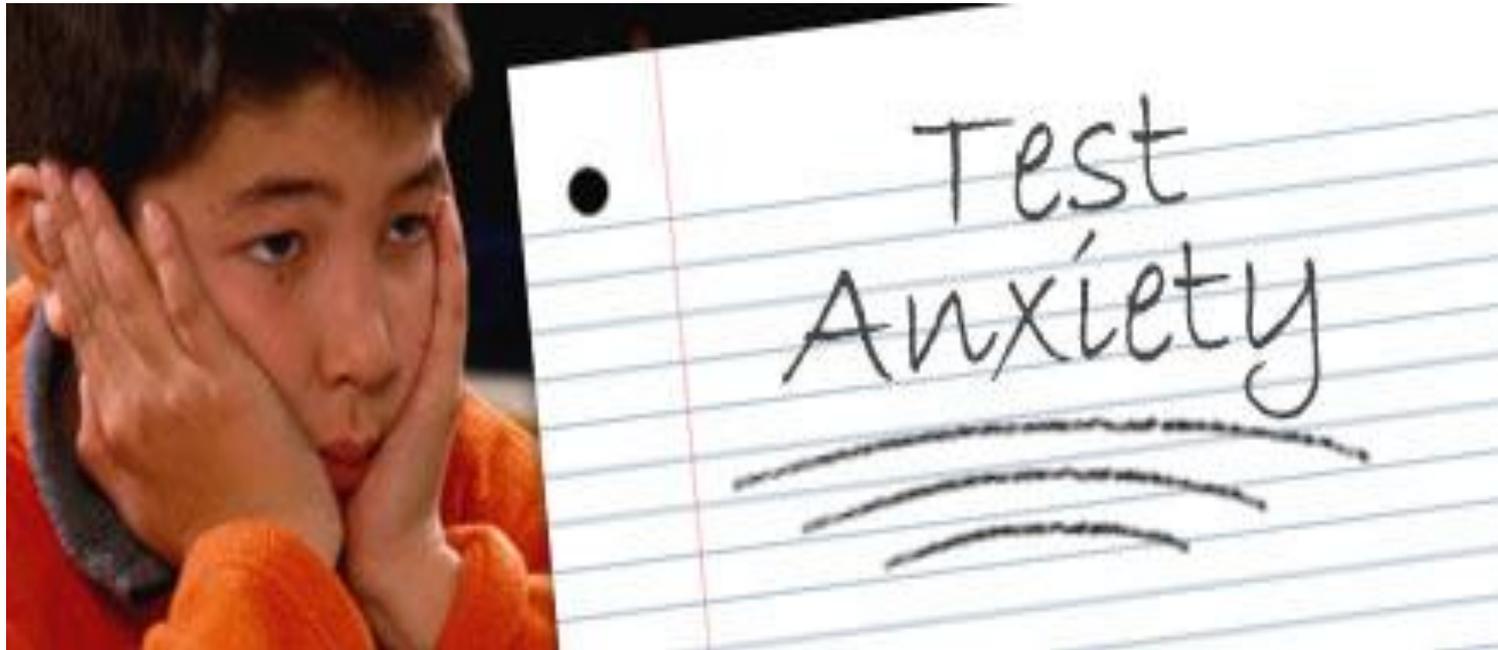


# Evaluate homework time

- What worked well?
- What did not work well? And why?
- What should we do next time to make it work better?



# Grades



# How you react counts

- You want your child to do their best in school, but not to stress out over every assignment or assessment.
- Have a realistic attitude about grades.
- One poor grade is not the end of the world.

# Tips for Grades

- Think of grades as a tool that let you know your child's strengths and struggles.
- Talk to your child about what they want to be when they grow up and help them understand how important an education is to help them reach those goals.
- Encourage your child to do their best.

# Communicate

- Talk to your child about what subjects they do well in and where he/she is having trouble.
- If your child's grades are poor don't jump to the conclusion that is it because they are lazy or haven't tried.
- Talk to the teacher.

# How to Handle School Problems.

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**"I'M BEGINNING TO ENJOY THESE  
LONG WALKS WITH YOU EVERY DAY."**

# Communication

- **Talk to your child about the problem-**  
Remember your child probably won't tell you the whole truth about his/her participation.
- Talk to the teacher and listen to the whole situation before coming to any conclusion.
- **More than likely there is blame for both sides of the problem.**

# Motivating your children to do well in school

*It begins with us!*

What messages are we giving our  
children about the importance of  
education?



# Motivating your children to do well in school

## Recognize your children's efforts

- Have a consistent place to show off or save your children's work.
- Praise your children often.



# Begin with a positive attitude

- Show interest in what your children are learning at school.
- Focus on the strengths of your children.
- Never say negative things about teachers or the school in front of your children.



# Becoming a positive role model for our children

- If we want our children to read, it is very important that they see us read.
- Sign up for classes or attend parent workshops, family nights or conferences.



# Enjoy being a parent

- Take time to enjoy your children.
- Do fun things as a family.
- Delight in your children's accomplishments.



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