

MORE HOMEWORK TIPS FOR PARENTS

MAKE EXPECTATIONS CLEAR & CONSISTENT!

Parents are the key to making homework a positive experience for their child at home. But, where do parents begin?

■ **Schedule a structured time period for homework** (i.e., 6:30-7:30 p.m.) and keep this time consistent. Designate a quiet place without distractions or interruptions like phone calls.

■ **Look at their assignment notebook every night.**

■ **Do not accept excuses.** (i.e., “I have no homework.”) Your child will always have something he or she can work on during their scheduled homework time: written homework, free reading, studying

for tests, reviewing notes, organizing notebooks, etc. Insist that if “they did it in school,” they still have to bring it home to show you.

■ **Help your child get organized and stay organized.** Take ten minutes each night to clean out notebooks and loose papers, three-hole punch papers and insert them where they belong in a binder.

■ **Establish a place at home to store backpacks,** packed before bed with completed homework and all necessary supplies for the next day. In the morning it will be easy to grab on the way out.

■ **Discipline the negative, and reward the positive!**

Common homework excuses... and some effective responses!

I DON'T HAVE ANY HOMEWORK.

Let me look at your Agenda Book.

I ALREADY DID IT!

Show me.

I LEFT IT IN MY LOCKER.

Let's go back to school and get

it. The building is open until

3:30 p.m.

I HANDED IT IN ALREADY.

Have the teacher sign your agenda book to confirm it was handed in.

MY BOOK IS LOST OR STOLEN.

Call a friend.

I DON'T NEED (OR WANT) YOU TO HELP ME.

Okay, but I will be checking your work every night.

I DO MY HOMEWORK BUT I ALWAYS LOSE IT.

I'll help you get your notebooks organized. We can work together each night to help you keep your binders clean.

I DON'T UNDERSTAND THE WORK.

Go see your teacher tomorrow during Opportunity period or after school.

I FORGOT TO WRITE MY ASSIGNMENTS DOWN.