

Testing Tips

Show your child the importance of following directions on tests

Sometimes, a child may know the answer to a test question--but still get it wrong. She underlined the answer, when the directions said circle. Or she chose the true answer when the directions asked for the one that was not true.

Helping your child learn to follow directions exactly is an important way to prepare her for test success. Try these things at home:

- Follow a recipe together. Talk about what would happen if you left out one of the ingredients or didn't do things in order.
- Help your child think about one thing she knows or does well--making a peanut butter sandwich, finding her way to school. Have her write step-by-step directions on how to do it. Now follow the directions she has written exactly. Was anything missing?
- Create a treasure hunt. Hide a small prize somewhere your child won't see it. Now write notes your child must follow. Each note tells her to look somewhere else. Only if she follows the directions exactly will she get the prize.

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