

Strategies for Parents to Encourage Achievement Developing Good Study Skills

1. Make a plan for organizing the study environment and study time at home. Your child should be involved in making the plan so he or she knows exactly what is expected.
2. Help your child in developing organizational skills. Many children need help in knowing how to organize. Work on one organizational skill at a time. Your child will be less overwhelmed than trying to do everything at once.
3. Make a checklist of materials needed at school and materials needed at home. Post this in an obvious place, such as the bathroom mirror or inside the car.
4. Design a system where you periodically check your child's notebooks. Have your child bring home notebooks or folders regularly so that he can share what he is learning in school, what assignments he is working on, etc.
5. Promote a love of reading in your home. Turn off the TV and have a reading night at least once a week! Use your imagination and creativity to make the most inviting place in your home the **Reading Area**.
6. Work on improving memory techniques. Look for games that require a good memory. List all the techniques you and your child can think of which help to remember things.
7. Help your child make flash cards, mindmaps, charts, lists or drawings to learn key terms or facts.
8. Be aware of a drop in grades or achievement test scores. Find out why this is happening before the problem gets severe.
9. Discover your child's academic weaknesses. Brainstorm ways to make learning fun in these areas.
10. Learn about **learning styles**. Help your child recognize his/her strong and weak learning styles. Compare this with your own.
11. Set aside a **study time** in your home **every night**. Parents should allow no activities other than studying (assigned homework or studying a topic of individual interest) during study time.



12. Be a life long learner yourself. Continue to learn new things, share these things with your child, and model the learning process.

13. Encourage your child to teach things he/she knows to someone younger or to someone older. This gives a great sense of accomplishment.