

Use praise as much as you can. Your child has worked hard at school all day so praise them as much as you can - for the work itself, the way your child does it, and how he or she sticks at it. Small rewards help children—stickers work well as does extra time on the computer, or playing a game together.

If either of you start to feel cross stop! Sometimes it can be frustrating working with your child, this is normal and sometimes it might be too much for your child. If this happens stop, staying an extra few minutes won't help.

Don't do the homework yourself - we can tell when this happens! If your child is finding the homework difficult, try and explain or demonstrate how it should be done but **don't** do the actual homework for them. If they really don't understand it speak to their class teacher and they will help.

Remember homework is optional. It is good to get into a routine with your child's homework and for it to happen on a regular basis. However, do not worry if you miss reading a book one night or you don't get a chance to play a maths game at the weekend. You can always start again the next

# Top Tips to Help with Homework



Parents can make a big difference to their child's learning. The time you spend with your child and the talk involved is the most important part of supporting learning at home. Why not get your child to take the role of the teacher and explain what is expected.

It does not have to be just you who helps with homework. Any trusted person - an older brother or sister, cousin, grandparent, aunt or uncle can help.

Choose a time that suits you and your child to do homework. When your child's favourite T.V. programme is on may not be the best time or late at night. Try and stick to the same times each day to establish a routine. Remember your child has worked hard at school all day to keep the amount of time slightly less than you know your child can manage.

Talk to your child about their work. Ask them to explain what he/she has to do. Spend a few minutes together at the beginning, talking about how she or he might do it. Let your child talk as much as possible while you listen. Remember talk can be in English or your home language.

Try and find a quiet place for you and your child to work, if possible away from the television or noisy computer games. Try to distract your child as little as possible.

Have as much fun as you can! If possible try and make the work fun. If your child's homework involves a game get other family members to join in. If she or he is doing some maths, do some yourself. If there is a chance to laugh use it.