



# HOMework HELP

## STRESS LESS ABOUT HOMEWORK

Few problems are as frustrating for parents and kids as not receiving credit for homework that was actually completed but never handed in! Here are a couple of ideas to hopefully help.

### Homework is never done until it is back in its proper folder or notebook

- Folders and notebooks are packed into the backpack
- Backpack is on its morning launching pad
- Create checklist for repetitive activities such as morning routines, completing chores and gathering sports equipment
- Train the student to enter a note in the next day's agenda space reminding them to hand in assignment
- Have student e-mail assignment to teacher when they print it out. Then, if the hard copy is lost the teacher still has the assignment.
- Be an advocate—see the teacher can reduce the homework load ( e.g., in math instead of 1 –30 questions do only 1-15)
- Ask if teacher could end their day a few minutes early to review homework and give students an opportunity to be certain they have it written down in their agenda.
- Second set of textbooks at home
- Colour code every subject
- Organize the backpack. Have a routine weekly time to empty the pack and throw away old papers and organize the rest.
- Have a structured homework time—the kitchen table may be too distracting but their bedroom too isolated—perhaps the dining room table will work. Make the routine predictable and stress free
- If your child takes medication the effects may have worn off by late afternoon. Talk to your doctor.
- When homework displaces all time for play, relaxation, sports, music, family and church then it is clearly too much. Try some of these ideas:
  - Set a maximum time limit and don't exceed it
  - Prioritize each assignment and do first things first
  - Set a time allotment for every assignment. It is better to have every assignment attended to somewhat than one done perfectly and one not done at all.
  - Help your child discern between urgent and important
- Create an incentive plan with your child that motivates and monitors school performance and makes them accountable!!

## TIPS TO MAKE IT TO THE END OF JUNE

Wonderful spring fever has captured us all.



Teachers usually seem to catch spring PANIC!!! Projects, tests, assignments etc, come at a faster pace than ever. Here are a few hints that may help you and your child to survive and yet still have some FUN!!!

1. As nasty as it is, these things are coming - accept them.
2. Give yourself plenty of time.
3. Use your agenda to plan it out.
4. Make sure your study space is organized to suit YOU
5. Look at the big picture of what lies ahead ( tests, exams, projects, field trips that will take time away, sports events etc.)
6. After you've looked at the BIG PICTURE by marking the dates on your calendar, go back and break the jobs into small pieces
7. Figure out how long it will take you to research, make notes, make drawings, good copy etc, and divide up your time accordingly. Do a small bit every day.
8. Study notes: put your notes into your own words and then COVER, RECITE, AND CHECK.
9. Study what you don't know first

Ask your teacher to help you with things you don't understand

## FYI

### BOOK RETURNS

**Whoops, none of my books have found their way back home.** Does someone have my Inspiration CD??? Please check and return. Thanks

### SUMMER

### TUTORING

I will be offering individual tutoring during the month of August. As you plan your summer, please let me know if you wish to book time for your child to consolidate skills.

**Referrals of new clients are always welcome.**

### CONFERENCES

**Tuesday,  
April 28,2009**

SurPASS, a Burlington organization founded to support struggling students has asked me to be their guest speaker from 7:00 to 9:30 pm. I will be speaking about organizational strategies and time management.

Please join us if you can.

**For more information:  
www.passforkids.com  
or Call 289-288-3167**