

## Homework Strategies

### General Tips:

1. Do homework within 30mins of being home. Waiting beyond that makes it harder for the child to focus and withdraw from activities at home.
2. Do homework in a quiet space. No t.v. or radio in the background.
3. Eat snacks before homework not during, food/drink can be a distraction.
4. No t.v. or computer before homework. Use t.v. or computer time as a reward for homework completion.
5. Give a time limit for homework so it gets done faster and the child doesn't fear it will take up all their at-home time.

### Distractibility Tips:

1. Use an timer to give a time limit for each homework page, any cooking timer will work (ex: 5 minutes to finish spelling practice).
2. Use a large piece of colored construction paper to cover problems/items on the page your child isn't on. Limiting how much visuals there are on a homework page will help a child focus more on the given problem, instead of focusing/worrying about the whole page.
3. Limit the noise around the child during homework time in a large area, or do it in an area in the house where there isn't much "traffic."
4. Use a highlighter to mark which problem your child is on. The brightness of the highlighter will draw their attention to the problem.

### Language Arts Tips:

#### Writing

1. Use a highlighter for guided writing when your child is struggling. Write the word/letter with a yellow highlighter and have the child trace over it.

2. Use colored construction paper to cover lines or spaces in the writing that the child has not come to yet.

### Reading

1. Make and use flashcards on a daily basis to improve memory in reading words. Start with only a small stack, 5-10 flashcards, and use them until the child has mastered reading the cards. Add more flashcards as they are ready to learn more words.
2. Read the white, decodable take-home books through out the week. Keep them in a shoe box and randomly pull some out on the weekend to practice.
3. Do a “Read and Repeat” reading session. You read the sentence first while the child listens and reads with his/her finger (moving their finger along with the words for tracking). The child repeats/reads the same sentence when you finish. On the 3<sup>rd</sup> read of the sentence you both read it aloud together. This will help the child work towards reading it independently.
4. Use a highlighter to mark a sentence for your child to read from a book. The colored visual will help them to know how to track the words and when to stop. Once they have read the sentence discuss it, then highlight the next one. This strategy works on visually tracking the words, stopping at punctuation marks, and increasing reading speed/comprehension.

### Math

1. Use manipulatives(blocks, stackable items, straws) for counting and basic addition and subtraction.
2. Draw pictures to represent words in math word problems. If the child can see the picture from the words, they are more likely to solve the problem.
3. Use/make math flashcards to help memorize basic facts (addition & subtraction from 1-10). Example: One card would have 1+2 on the front and 3 as the answer on the back. Start with one facts family, like the 1’s, and add more as the child has mastered/memorized the fact family.
4. Remind your child about the math signs (+ or -) that they will see on their page and what to do with each sign. Allow your child to

work on a few problems independently, then check their work for understanding.

Helpful websites for homework help/reinforcement

<http://www.aplusmath.com/hh/index.html>

<http://www.starfall.com>

<http://school.familyeducation.com/homework/activity/34550.html>

[http://www.ldat.org/ld\\_info/homework.html](http://www.ldat.org/ld_info/homework.html)

<http://www.terifficparenting.com>