



Create A Good Environment For Study

One of the best ways that parents can show their children that education is important is to create a more “school like” family. What does this mean?

Find a place for your child to study. The most important ways that you can help develop good study habits is to find a good place for your child to study. It is helpful to choose a place that has good light and is quiet, with a desk or table for writing. If you don't have the space for a desk or table just for study, a kitchen or dining room table will work just fine.

Turn off the telephone and television. Many families believe that they owe their child's success in school to turning off the television and phone for at least one hour each day. This can be done either after school or in the evening. Families who do this every day report an increase in their child's grades and attitude about school. During this quiet time, children (and adults if possible) should either complete homework or read.

Be a good role model. It is so important to be a good role model for your child. Children often copy your words and actions. Let your child see you reading—even if it's the newspaper or a magazine. It doesn't matter whether you read in English or in another language. It's not easy to find the time in your busy day but even a few minutes will show your child how important reading really is. Also make sure your child sees you making grocery lists, figuring out costs of produces, and paying bills. This shows them how they can use what they are learning in school in their every day life.

Talk about what you and your child have read. Tell your child what you have been reading. Encourage him or her to ask you questions about your reading. Ask your child questions about their reading as well. Have them describe the characters, the setting for the story, and ask them what they liked best about what they are reading or if there were any surprises. Ask if they would like you to read a chapter to them. Also encourage them to read to you.

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