

HOW TO SUPPORT LEARNING AT HOME



103 Church Street, Suite 210
New Brunswick, NJ 08901

1-866-9NJPIRC
www.NJPIRC.org

- ♥ Go to school and meet the teacher.
- ♥ Actively support goals for learning and appropriate behavior.
- ♥ Participate in parenting skills training, if offered.
- ♥ Note children's progress in school and compliment them.
- ♥ Get kids their own library cards and keep magazines, newspapers and books around the house.
- ♥ Help children break down large jobs, such as dressing themselves, homework and chores into small steps so that they can manage them successfully.
- ♥ Develop a reasonable and consistent schedule for chores.
- ♥ Set and follow through rules about TV during the week.
- ♥ Play games together.
- ♥ Talk regularly about events happening at work, in the neighborhood and around the world.
- ♥ Establish a quiet place and a regular schedule for doing homework.
- ♥ Try to offer assistance when frustration seems to be setting in. Problem-solve together and encourage and help children help themselves.
- ♥ For younger children, homework time could occur following an after-school snack, while dinner is being cooked or right after dinner.
- ♥ For older children, the amount of work will dictate the time spent on homework. Try to encourage them to begin no later than right after dinner.
- ♥ Use your local library if your home has no room for children to study or a safe place for kids to go in the afternoons after school.
- ♥ Support the value of homework as an important part of education.
- ♥ Help children plan and schedule what they need to do: study, play, chores.
- ♥ Do not expect or demand perfection in homework or schoolwork. Praise children's efforts and offer suggestions for any problems that they encounter.
- ♥ Encourage kids to plan ahead for long-term projects (there is nothing worse than looking for special materials at 11 p.m. on a school night).
- ♥ If a child is having difficulty in a subject, arrange for a neighbor, relative or older student who knows the subject to work with your child.
- ♥ To expand children's learning and skills, use computers (at the library if you do not have one at home), books, newspapers, magazines, and educational software, audiotapes, video tapes and television shows.
- ♥ Support Children's interest by expanding opportunity for experiences. If your child has a love for bugs go outside and dig for worms. If they love dinosaurs take them to the museum.

Adapted from: Education Today Parent Involvement Handbook by Susan D. Otterbourg,
Ed.D. Copyright, 1994,

The Educational Publishing Group, Inc.

Compliments of:: The Parenting Education Resource Center

Prevent Child Abuse – New Jersey

103 Church Street, Suite 210

New Brunswick, NJ 08901

1-800-CHILDREN