

5 Ways You Can Help Your Child Become a More Successful Student.

Reading Fundamentals:

5 Ways to help your child become a better reader/learner.

1. Embrace the early years. Research shows that building a strong foundation for future reading success can begin as early as infancy. Use colorful stories or picture books for young children, exciting stories with older children. Sit close together and make reading interactive. Have your child turn the pages for you. Use your voice and facial expressions to make the story come to life. Point to pictures in the book and talk about what is happening in the story. Ask good questions such as, “What do you think will happen next?”

2. Be there to monitor homework. By helping with homework, you can help your child develop the skills necessary to be a successful reader. Encourage careful review of the instructions for assignments. Help your child develop a plan to complete a longer reading assignment. Once a reading assignment is underway, guide your child to key points in the plot, characters, or setting. Practice reading passages aloud, taking turns.

3. Start the day in a positive way. Have you ever wanted to just crawl back in bed and start the day over? Help your child start every day off right by establishing a daily routine that includes plenty of time for sleep. Encourage your child to pack his bookbag as soon as he finishes his homework, eliminating that task from the morning rush. Ensure that your child has a nutritious breakfast. Help your child arrive at school ready to read and learn!

4. Work with your child’s teacher. Let the teacher know that you will reinforce the importance of reading at home by having a set reading routine and plenty of interesting reading materials for your child. If you think your child is having problems with reading, share your concern with your child’s teacher right away. Together you can develop a plan to help your child.

5. Every day is a good day to learn. It’s never too late! If you have not already started a reading routine with your child, today is a good day to start. Your involvement, support, and commitment to his learning will help to ensure a life-long love of reading and school success.