



# Tips

**Create a homework spot** where your child will work each day. Try to choose a spot with minimal distractions.

**Establish a routine** for what time homework will be done every day and stick to it.

**Create a homework log** to keep track of what homework is assigned. Ask your child's teachers to initial it daily.

**Stay close by.** Watch your child to make sure they understand the homework assignment. If they don't, do a few questions together. You can also call the UFT Homework Helpline, Dial-A-Teacher, at (212) 777-3380 for extra help.

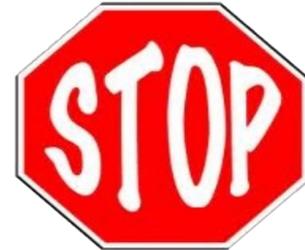
**Contact the teacher right away** if your child is having trouble understanding their assignments. Your child may need extra help or services in school.

**Keep rewards simple.** If your child needs incentives, try making a stamp or sticker chart with a small but meaningful reward at the end of the week or month.

**Give specific praise.** Praising specific behaviors encourages good habits. "I like how you are focusing" or "Great job sounding out that word" give children more cues than "Good work" or "You are so smart."

**Show your child that homework is important.** If your child does their homework at an afterschool program or while you are at work, ask to see your child's finished work when you get home to make sure they are on the right track.

**Schedule breaks.** If your child has more than 30 minutes of homework, set a timer so your child knows when they will get a short break. Try stretching or doing jumping jacks during a break!



**Don't let your child do homework by the TV** or other distractions.

**Don't leave homework for the last task of the day.**

This sends the message that homework is not as important as other activities.

**Don't do homework for your child.** Encourage your child to work independently. Homework should be based on what they already learned at school. Give help only after your child makes an effort on their own. If the work is too difficult, talk to your child's teacher immediately.

**Don't make it a race.** Encourage your child to take their time and put forth their best effort.

