

Specific Guidelines

Meet the teacher at the beginning of school and plan to visit the school to see what is taught and expected.

Send the child to school every day. Teachers are concerned when parents make other plans for their children; it conveys the impression that school is unimportant.

Demonstrate an interest in what the child is learning.

Demonstrate an interest in content and growth more than in grades.

Make it clear to the child that schoolwork is between the child and the teacher; the teacher and child should set goals for better school performance to allow the child to feel responsible for school successes and failures.

Take advantage of situations that support and reinforce school learning.

Share information with teachers that will help them understand the child better.

Communicate with the teacher if there appears to be a problem; avoid waiting for a scheduled conference.

Provide a quiet, well-lit area for study that is safe from interruption; do not allow television or music.

Avoid dictating a study time but do enforce rules, such as no video games until homework is done; accept the child's word that work is complete.

Help with homework should focus on explaining the question, not giving the answer.

Teach the child to break large tasks (such as a report) into smaller, manageable tasks spread over the allotted time rather than attempting the entire project the night before it is due.