

Literacy Tips for Parents -Helping your Children

1. Listen to your child read aloud for at least 15 minutes every night. Then ask them to explain to you what the passage was about. Get them to fill in a reading record of what they read each night. It is important that your child reads books that they understand and that are not too difficult.
2. Ask your child when they come home from school what they have learnt today. Students who can explain ideas will remember them longer.
3. Make sure your child does homework every week night. It is helpful to do it at the same time every night so that they develop a homework habit. It should be a quiet place away from any distractions. If it is in the lounge room the television should be turned off. There should be good lighting.
4. Students should regularly read a small section of a daily newspaper. Get them to discuss it with you.
5. Watch the news with your children so you can discuss current issues with them.
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7. Check your child's school diary once a week as any homework they have, should be recorded in that. Your child's diary is checked once a week by teachers to ensure it is being used effectively. The Homework Policy in the college diary indicates how long students should work for each night.
8. Take your child to the local Public Library and get them to become a member. It has a wide variety of resources and they are all free.
9. Encourage your child to attend the Homework Club in the School Library every Thursday from 3pm to 4pm. There is a tutor available to help your child with their schoolwork.
10. If your child has no homework on a particular night, they can read their novel for longer, do revision, copy a passage of writing or read a newspaper.
11. It is important to show an interest in your child's school work. Praise them when they have done something well or when they complete homework.
12. If your child is doing a lot of homework each night, make sure they have a break after an hour. Proper exercise and nutrition is important too. Also, ensure they don't go to bed too late at night as this will affect their concentration level in class the next day.
13. Contact the school immediately if you have any problems with homework or any other issues about your child's learning. We all want the best education for your child.
14. Ask your child's English or ESL teacher for additional homework for students with poor spelling skills.
15. It is important that you attend Parent-Teacher nights which are held twice a year when you can discuss your child's progress with all of their teachers.

