

Supporting your child at school

FACT SHEET

Parents are a child's first and most important life-long teacher. At the TDSB, we believe that education is a shared responsibility and we value the role that parents play in helping to ensure that students reach the highest levels of achievement possible. Below are some of the ways you can help your child succeed in school:

Homework Tips

Homework is an important part of a student's academic program. Research shows that students do better in school when parents are involved in their child's education -- you can help your child by being involved daily in homework assignments.

If your child is in elementary school, ask the teacher at the beginning and throughout the year what topics, areas, and skills will be covered in class. Keep a folder of your child's work (writing, drawing, book list, quizzes, etc.) and take them to the parent-teacher conference.

Extra Help

Many TDSB schools have remedial programs, peer tutors, or Homework Clubs that you can access. Talk to your child's teacher and/or principal. Many secondary schools offer extra help in skills labs and at lunchtime or after school.

Suggested Time Guidelines

The amount of time a student spends on homework depends on the student's needs, age and grade, subject, schedule, proximity to tests, examinations and project due dates. Generally, count on about 10 minutes per grade per night (e.g.: a Grade 9 student might expect about 90 minutes of homework per night).

Study Tips

Help your child develop good study habits:

- Set a consistent time when homework will be done every night;
- Provide a quiet place away from distractions such as television and telephones;
- Have your children practice mathematics, reading, and writing skills daily;
- Talk to your children about what they are learning in school;
- Read together with younger children;
- Let your children help you in reading and writing recipes, newspapers, letters, shopping lists, etc.;
- Encourage your children to ask the teacher for help if they find the work difficult or confusing;
- Keep in touch with the teachers and call when you have a question or a concern;
- Check that homework is completed, and;
- Praise and encourage your children.

On-line Lessons

A number of learning activities for English and Mathematics have been developed by the Toronto District School Board and are available for elementary students, Grades 1 to 8. These online activities offer three days of lessons and are available as [PDF files](#). To use these and other on-line resources, visit the TDSB's web site at www.tdsb.on.ca and select "Homework Tips" from the "Parent" menu.

Additional Resources

Provincial curriculum material

Parents and guardians can access the same materials that teachers use to prepare for the classroom. Provincial Curriculum Resources, in the form of manuals and booklets, variously set out standards of practice, suggested teaching practices, activities, expectations and more in materials that are specific to subjects, grades, and courses. They can be viewed on-line through the Ontario Ministry of Education web site at: www.edu.gov.on.ca. Click on "Teachers", then click on "[Curriculum](#)"

TDSB publications

The Toronto District School Board also makes a broad range of information booklets, manuals, and pamphlets that can assist parents/guardians and students in the process of learning. All are available through the TDSB web site at: www.tdsb.on.ca. Click on "Parents", then click on "[Publications](#)".

For more information, visit our web site at www.tdsb.on.ca and select "[Homework Tips](#)" from the "Parent" menu.

Toronto District School Board
5050 Yonge Street, Toronto, Ontario M2N 5N8
Tel: (416) 397-3000
Web: www.tdsb.on.ca