

Solutions to Homework Challenges

If you're a parent whose evening stress level is directly related to how much homework "we" have tonight, there are a number of changes you can make so that homework is more manageable and productive.

COMMON EXCUSES

Have you ever heard this before:

- "Mom, Dad, I didn't do my homework because you forgot to remind me."
- "I left my assignment at school."
- "The teacher didn't give me any homework."
- "I can't do my homework because it's too hard."

Are you pulling your hair out yet? Before you do so, you should know that there are answers to your homework headaches.

THE HOME-SCHOOL RELATIONSHIP

The relationship between home and school is important. If you want your child to achieve academic success, you must become involved in the educational process. Here are some ways to develop a good attitude toward homework in your child and a high-quality relationship with your child's school.

- Talk to your child about school. Does your child understand why he goes to school? Talk about his likes and dislikes about school and why. Let him know

that he can always come to you with problems.

- Communicate with your child's teacher. Plan to meet with the teacher at least three times a year to discuss your child's progress.
- Learn about the curriculum at your child's school. The more you know about what will be taught in the classroom, the better you will be able to help your child with homework.

HOMEWORK CHALLENGES AND STRATEGIES

- If your child cannot complete homework without help, talk with him or her to determine if the assignment is too hard, if the directions are unclear, or if he or she didn't understand the information or skill when it was taught in class.
- Does your child understand the importance of homework assignments? Quite often, children don't understand why homework is assigned or how doing it (or not doing it) affects their understanding of the material and their grades. Ask the teacher to explain the purpose for homework, how it is scored, and how it factors into the final grade.



Solutions to Homework Challenges

- If the homework is too hard. Talk with your child's teacher to determine whether your child is capable of handling the assignments. If he or she isn't, try to find out why. Is he or she having a hard time paying attention in class or grasping new concepts? Does he need extra help? Let the teacher make suggestions, and don't hesitate to contribute suggestion of your own.
- Just plain lazy. Start by requiring you child to record all of her assignments on an assignment sheet. Ask the teacher to initial the sheet daily to show that an assignment has been given, and also to initial it whenever homework is handed in. Insist on seeing the sheet every evening.

HOMework RESOURCES

Welcome to Alabama's Free Live Online Homework Help Service:

http://webmini.apls.state.al.us/apls_web/apls/apls/homework/

This service offers free homework help from subject specialists.

Available Sunday - Thursday - 3p.m. until 10 p.m. !!! Free Tutoring - Math - Science – Social Studies – English Grades K3-12, College Intro, and Adult Learner.

APEC IS HERE TO HELP

APEC provides free training, information, and consultation to families. Visit our training calendar for more information about learning opportunities at www.alabamaparentcenter.com or call our center.



The contents of this publication were developed in part under a grant from the US Department of Education, #H328M110024. However, those contents do not necessarily represent the policy of the US Department of Education, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government. *Homework V.1 Solutions to Homework Challenges*



Alabama Parent Education Center 

PO Box 118 * Wetumpka AL, 36092 * 334-567-2252 *866-532-7660

www.alabamaparentcenter.com

Page 2 of 2