



Study Skills Tips for Elementary School Students

*By Maggie Gilligan
AC Peers Student Manager, Class of 2012.*

Take A Break Before Starting Homework, But Not For Too Long

After getting home from a long day of school, it can be difficult to muster up the energy to sit down and start homework right away. Taking 15-20 minutes to eat a healthy, re-energizing snack like fruit or vegetables with dip gives kids a chance to have some cool down time before getting them ready to take on their homework. It's important that their break doesn't last too long, because starting work as soon as possible is an important study skill that kids need to learn for middle and high school. If students develop a tendency to procrastinate at a young age, it can be very hard to overcome when they get older.

Reward Yourself

After completing a particularly difficult assignment or after working for a long period of time, students should do something to reward their selves for their diligence. This helps as a motivator to get work done because students are striving towards a positive goal, and as a reinforcement of good study skills.

Split Up Long Term Projects

Trying to do a big project the night before it's due is a recipe for disaster. Splitting long term projects up into pieces makes them seem less intimidating, helps develop time management skills, and makes the project less stressful. If a student has to do a research paper, have them set a date for when they will finish their research, then another date for when they will finish a rough draft, and finally a date by which they will have finished the entire project. Having this date be the day before the due date can be useful in case the student wants to do last minute touch ups before the project is due.

Write Down Your Homework

While this might seem to be a no-brainer to some, plenty of students don't write down their homework from each class. They assume they'll remember it, say they'll get it from someone else later, or any other number of reasons. Getting students a homework planner can be a useful way to record and keep organized homework from every class.

Make Flashcards

Flashcards are excellent resources for anything from memorizing new vocabulary to multiplication and division tables to the order of the presidents. They can be used to study for quizzes, then saved to be used for unit tests, or just whenever students need to refresh their memories about a particular concept.

Do NOT Cram

Cramming is one of the worst habits a young student can get into. When students find out they have a test or quiz, they should start reviewing the material that will be covered for 15-30 minutes a day every day before the test. This repetition will help the information stick better, and starting studying early gives students a chance to see what information they know well and what information they need to study more, and the time to study it. Starting studying early gives students a chance to get questions they have about material answered, and it makes them feel more confident going in to take the test.

Review What You Have Learned

After finishing all their homework, students should take a couple minutes for each class and homework assignment to review what they learned in class and what they were studying in their homework assignment. This helps students to further absorb the information they learned and helps them to summarize it as well.

AC Peers provides a 10 lesson Study Skills curriculum with activities free of charge with 1:1 tutoring sign-ups for note taking, long term assignment planning, time management, as well as pre/post diagnostics.

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