Ways to Help at Home

Dear Parents,

We are often asked what can be done at home to support your child’s education. Here are some suggestions that may be of help to you. ☺

* Talk with your child daily about school, everyday happenings, and current events.
* When papers are sent home, review them with your child.
* See that your child gets plenty of sleep. Encourage exercise and good nutrition.
* Provide learning experiences outside of school. Parks, museums, libraries, zoos, historical sites, and family games offer good learning experiences.
* Read with your child and around your child. Encourage you child to read for pleasure. Discuss what your child read, what you read together, and where appropriate what you are reading. This can ignite a passion for reading!
* Monitor television programs. Television can be instructional and also relaxing in proper doses and at the proper times. Talk with your child about the programs he or she watches.
* Instruct your child to complete homework as early in the afternoon or evening as possible.
* Provide a quiet, well-lit area in which your child can study. Set up a desk or table designated for study but not far from the rest of the family. Remember to provide materials such as pens, pencils, a pencil sharpener, paper, a dictionary, crayons, glue, and scissors.
* Insist homework be done away from the television and distractions. Please be aware that some individuals work best with background music, but for others it is far too distracting. Get to know what works best for your child. ☺
* Take an active interest in your child’s schoolwork. Assist your child when he or she has an upcoming test and needs to study, even if that assistance is simply providing plenty of quiet time. It is also helpful to quiz your child on the information he or she is studying.
* If your child has trouble understanding something, try to help by asking open-ended questions and focusing on the strategies they are using. Don’t put all of the emphasis on the answer itself.

We hope this information proves helpful to you. As always, we appreciate your support.

 Sincerely,

 Ms. Ferrara and Mrs. Daidone