



STUDY SKILLS

Good study skills begin in the classroom. Having strong listening and note taking skills allows your child to have the information they need at home in order to study effectively.



Neatly write assignments in your agenda pad. If you have no homework write, “no homework”. Check off assignments as you complete them.



We all have different Learning Styles (see Learning styles section). Make sure your environment meets your distinct style. But, you should always study at a time when you are alert and not hungry.



Space your study sessions. You are more likely to remember material if you study over several days rather than in one crash session. Also, take study breaks.



Study your class notes first. Rewrite them in sentence or outline form. Use a highlighter to highlight key ideas. Repetition is key!!



Write information on index cards which you can organize into categories, color code and use as flash cards. For vocabulary, place the word on one side and the definition on the other. This way you can test your knowledge both ways.



While you are reviewing your notes, cover them up periodically and summarize them out loud. Pretend that you are explaining the material to someone else.



Make a timeline of important dates or the order of events.



Make your own test. Create short answer and essay questions that you think the teachers may ask..... and then take your test!



Attending review sessions with the teacher not only serves to go over the material one more time, but it may “clue you in to” what topics may be on the test. Make sure you arrive with questions for the teacher.



Other family members could “quiz” you when you are done studying.



Form a study group if you feel it will be helpful.



Summarize each section of the text. Do not copy when summarizing. Answer review questions at the back of the chapter.

Study Skills (con'd)



Keep organized which may require the assistance of an adult. Here are some tips for organization:

- 1) **Organize binders weekly**
 - a) **Remove unnecessary papers**
 - b) **Create a secondary folder to keep at home that includes materials necessary for mid term and final exams.**
- 2) **Create a checklist of necessary materials such as pens, pencils, special supplies, projects, ect. Then, make sure these objects are in the binder and backpack each night**
- 3) **Some students may require a pen/pencil case in each binder with extra supplies**
- 4) **Check supply of blank paper for each class nightly**
- 5) **If lost homework is an issue, create a single homework binder so that ALL homework is in one place and easily accessible. Make sure this binder is placed in the backpack each night**



Develop time management skills. Here are some strategies for using time efficiently:

- 1) **Develop blocks of study time. How long does it take for you to become restless? Decide how long you can study before you need a break.**
- 2) **Prioritize assignments. When studying, get in the habit of beginning with the most difficult subject or task.**
- 3) **Review studies and readings just before class.**
- 4) **Schedule time for long-term assignments such as papers, presentations etc.**
- 5) **Schedule weekly reviews and updates.**



Anticipating test content:

- 1) **Pay particular attention to any study guides that the teacher hands out in class before the exam.**
- 2) **Ask the teacher what to anticipate on the test. This is not a secret! The teacher may list the key points to study.**
- 3) **Pay particular attention – just prior to the exam - to key points the teacher brings up during the class lecture.**
- 4) **Review previous tests**
- 5) **Speak with other students to predict what will be on the test.**
- 6) **Pay particular attention to clues the teacher may give. For example; If he/she writes information on the board or says, “This will be on the test!!”**

Learning good study habits is an art, not a science. There are many strategies listed above but not all may work for you. Try each one until you find the system that brings you the most success.