

Checklist For Helping Your Child Succeed

1. Show that you think education and homework are important.

- Do you set a regular time every day for homework?
- Does your child have the papers, books, pencils, and other things needed to do the assignments?
- Does your child have a fairly quiet place to study with lots of light?
- Do you set a good example by reading and writing yourself?
- Do you stay in touch with you child's teachers?

2. Monitor assignments.

- Do you know what your child's homework assignments are? How long they should take? How much the teacher wants you to be involved?
- Do you see that assignments are completed?
- Do you read the teacher's comments on the assignments that are returned?
- Is TV viewing cutting into homework time?

3. Provide guidance.

- Do you understand and respect your child's style of learning?
- Does your child work better alone or with someone else?
- Does your child work best when he or she can see things, hear them, or handle them?
- Do you help your child to get organized?
- Does your child need a calendar, assignment book, or folder for papers?
- Do you encourage your child to develop good study habits (e.g., scheduling enough time for big assignments; making up practice tests)?
- Do you talk with your child about homework assignments? Does your child understand them?
- Do you and your child have library cards?

4. Talk with someone at school about your child's education.

- Do you meet the teacher early in the year before any problems arise?
- If a problem arises, do you meet with the teacher?
- Do you cooperate with the teacher and your child to work out a plan and a schedule for completing homework?
- Do you follow up with the teacher and with your child to make sure the plan is working?

(From "Testing 1 – 2 – 3" by the New York State Education Department)