

# Supporting Students with Learning at Home

THE FUNNY THING  
ABOUT KIDS IS,  
THEY ARE THE REASON  
WE LOSE IT, AND THE  
REASON WE HOLD IT  
TOGETHER

# Foundations



**Set a schedule and stick to it.**

**Establish expectations with your child.**

**Praise effort more than completion of task.**

**Use positive statements and compliments often. Make at least 4 positive statements to your child for every time you need to provide a piece feedback.**

**If things get stressful, take a break then come back to it!**

# Steps to Successful At Home Learning



- 1. Make a space for learning: Let your student help create place to do their work that is within sight of you and is a comfortable for them.**
- 2. Set a routine for school days: Include wake up times, meal/snacks times, outdoor time, physical activity, bedtimes, etc.**
- 3. Allow breaks in the day away from schooling: Kids should get up and move every 30-45 minutes if possible. Get some fresh air.**
- 4. Help students make connections with the friends with virtual playdates or physical distancing meetups.**

# Consider the Following...



- 1. Remember that the kids would rather be in school too!**
- 2. Schools know that you aren't a teacher and we don't expect you to teach any new skills. All work being sent home should be at a student's independent level.**
- 3. Students are more likely to act up to their parents about schooling at home because they are not used to learning at home.**
- 4. Take a break if things are escalating. By modeling you taking a break as a parent, you are showing your child it is okay to take break to stay calm.**
- 5. This is hard on all of us...kids, parents, teachers...make sure to validate your kid's feelings and emotions during this time.**

# When Kids Struggle...



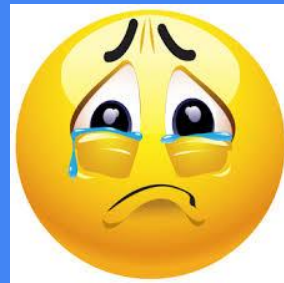
**Chunk the work: Have them do one problem, one page or one assignment at a time then allow them a break in between.**

**Let the student choose which assignment to start with first. Maybe starting with the hardest would be best or maybe starting with the easiest one is more helpful for your child.**

**Make a checklist of things to be done so kids can check things off.**

**Make it a race...see if your child can beat the timer!**

# When Kids Struggle...



Change the time of day you work on something....mornings might be better, evenings might be better or after a meal/snack might be better.

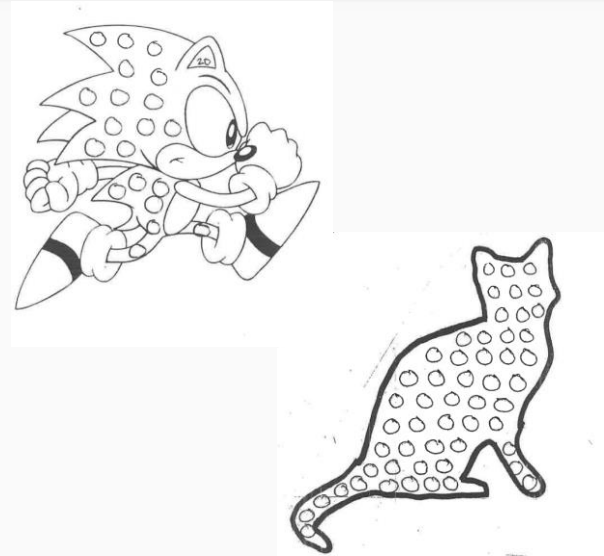
Have your child tell you the answer and then write it on a separate piece of paper. Then have your child copy your example.

Have them do the odd numbered of problems then have them do the even numbered problems at another time.

Set up a reinforcement plan to support positive attitude and work completion.

# Idea: Color Spots

The color spots are small circles within a character or picture. You can create any number of circles based on what you need. Adult can color in spots when they see their child working hard on their work, following directions or completing an assignment. There is not a set number of how many color spots you can give. The more color spots, the more opportunities to praise your child. When a student has filled up their color spots, then they can trade it in for a reinforcement of their choice.



# Idea: Sticker Charts

Sticker charts are another visual way to remind students to engage in the expected behavior and serve as a visual reminder to adults to reward students for following expectations. Create a series of goals to work on and evaluate each day.

When a student has earned a certain number of stickers/squares, reward them.

Free chart maker [here](#)

## Behavior Chart

| Goals: | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | Sunday |
|--------|--------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|----------|--------|
|        |        |         |           |          |        |          |        |
|        |        |         |           |          |        |          |        |
|        |        |         |           |          |        |          |        |
|        |        |         |           |          |        |          |        |
|        |        |         |           |          |        |          |        |

Target:  stickers

Reward: If I get \_\_\_ stickers, my reward will be \_\_\_\_\_

If I get \_\_\_ stickers, my reward will be \_\_\_\_\_



# Idea: Marble Jar



Use any type or size of jar to put in marbles, gems, puff balls or other small items you have. Add an item each time your child is engaging in the expected behavior. Make sure you name the behavior as you are putting the item in the jar. Once the jar is filled then the student can trade in for a reinforcer.

# Idea: Punch Card



Give your child a punch on their punch card when they complete an assignment or follow a behavior expectation.

You could also have your child earn one punch for a completed assignment and one punch for a positive attitude during the assignment. This will add extra emphasis on doing work with cooperation.

# Keys of Reinforcement Systems



- Verbally praise your child and their positive behavior each time you give one of the smaller rewards (dot, star, sticker, marble, etc.)
- Do not take away what has already been earned.
- If it's taking too long for child to earn a large reward, decrease amount of items they need to earn it. Some kids may need some a big reinforcer every few days.
- Stay focused on the positive behavior and ignore the smaller negative behaviors.
- Involve your child in making of the system including what they want to earn at the end.
- You may need to have a few options for a big reward in case your child gets tired of the same thing.

# Ideas for Reinforcement at Home



- Stay up 10 minutes past bedtime
- Have your child choose a family dinner
- Cook your child's favorite breakfast
- Bonus dessert night
- Get out of having to do chores for a day
- Have your child choose a movie for family movie night/day
- Extra screen time
- Special treat or snack
- Dress the parent for a day
- Small toy or item
- Temporary tattoos
- Pick your favorite cereal on our next grocery trip
- Extra 10 minutes of video games/computer time
- Hot chocolate or their favorite hot drink
- One extra bedtime story
- Play a favorite video clip
- Do a puzzle together as a family
- Build an obstacle course
- **Choose a redbox movie**
- **Positive phone call or text to the teacher**

# Ideas for Reinforcement at Home



- Be the 'only child'. Send their siblings away to the grandparents, friends or relatives for the day and make your child the center of attention.
- Bake something special together...child's choice.
- Camp out (either inside or outside)
- New art supplies
- Scavenger hunt
- Special art project
- Do a fun science experiment
- Pack of gum
- New book
- Plan a family day out
- Build something with a parent
- Building a blanket fort
- Pajama day at home
- Eat breakfast food for dinner
- Family dance party
- Special sign or decoration on their bedroom door
- Get favorite frozen treat..ice cream, Blizzard, etc.
- Movie with popcorn
- Pick music in the car for a day

# IF YOU NEED MORE HELP...



Contact your child's classroom teacher for help, guidance, suggestions or thoughts.

Contact Erin White, Behavior Specialist at Elmira

(541) 935-8214

