

Home Learning Advice – General

1st May 2020 No 3



Dear Parents

We hope that you and your child are settling into a routine for working together. This week's advice will help you to understand how schools deal with common problems when working with children.

Think about what went well and what could be improved.

Sometimes, your child might work very well, but other sessions may be more difficult. Don't feel bad when it doesn't go so well. It can happen in school too. Teachers always think about what went well with lessons and what didn't so they can improve future sessions. Some sessions will always be more successful than others, but it is important to keep trying.

Show children the learning behaviour you want to see

Children don't always know how to behave to learn well. At school, teachers show children the behaviour that will help them to learn well.

This week we will think about a learning behaviour, '**Help and Encourage Others**'. Children will know this behaviour from school where they learn to work well with other children. They now need to understand how they can work well with you. Show them what you want them to do, so they understand. They can also help and encourage you by letting you know how you can best help them to learn. Talk with them about home learning.

Show your child what you want them to do, for example, to listen carefully, to think about the learning and to finish the task. Praise them when they do as you ask.

Every family will be slightly different in how they work together and help and encourage each other, but it is very important at this difficult time when we are all at home so much.

How to help children to work at home:

1. Have a routine and allow children to be comfortable.
2. Think about sessions and what went well.
3. Tasks shouldn't be too long or too difficult.
4. Talk to your child about how they learn and model behaviour that will help them to learn well.
5. Don't criticise, praise hard work and make it fun!

Praise hard work

It is important to praise the effort your child makes when they are working. Good learners work hard to get better at a skill and don't give up when it is difficult. When your child does a task well, praise them for working hard so they come to understand that their success is the result of their hard work.

Try not to complain when you don't think your child has worked well. Talk to them about why there was a problem and try to find something that will help.

Talk about your child's behaviour

If your child is not doing as you have asked, try not to tell them that they are 'naughty'. We don't want them to see themselves as a 'naughty' person who cannot change. Instead, discuss their behaviour with them, saying what you do or don't like ("I like the way you could tell me about what you had read," or "I see that you have stopped reading, but I would like you to read three more pages"). By doing this, they will begin to understand how you want them to behave and how they can do the right thing. All teachers know how important this is.

Praise and rewards are important

Children need praise and small rewards (a simple clap, or time playing a favourite game), so they feel valued when they do as you have asked. This way, they will be keen to repeat their good behaviour in the future.

We'd love our [@successforall](#) schools to share their home learning! Why not ask your parents to include us in your Tweets?



Home Learning – Just for Fun!

1st May 2020



Activities to do on your daily walk

Collect items to make beautiful artwork

If you are going on a walk for exercise, collect items like a stick, leaf, or piece of wood that nature has provided (please don't pick living things) to create a piece of artwork and take a picture of it. Write about your walk. Was it fun? Were you happy? What did you find? Did you find any feathers? What animals are these from?

Make a map

Make a map as you walk around your local area, all you need is a pencil and a piece of paper. Draw the nearest park, your friend's house, a pond or even the biggest house you can find.

Try to be a rainbow in someone's cloud

Before you leave your house or flat today, leave a rainbow in your window - it could be a painting, drawing or a print. Lots of children are doing this to brighten up communities and make your walks fun! See how many you can find on your walk today.

I Spy

The person who is "it" chooses an object within sight of all the walkers and says, "I spy, with my little eye, something beginning with...". Whoever guesses the objects is "it" next.

Home Activities

Time to get messy

For Time to get messy, all you need is water, mud, a paintbrush and a canvas, be that paper or the floor (remember mud and water wash away).

Make a mixture of mud and water and create your very own masterpiece. Paint your surroundings, your favourite book character or even a portrait of yourself.

Start a daily gratitude practice

Start a daily gratitude practice as a family, whether at the dinner table or before bed. Take turns talking and writing about what you're grateful for right now in your life or in the world. When you are full of gratitude, there is no room for fear.

Visit interesting places on your computer

Visit United Utilities

You can access from the comfort of your home lots of activities where you can learn about the water cycle and water efficiency. You can even download an activity book with fun experiments that adults and children will love, find it all here: <https://www.unitedutilities.com/corporate/responsibility/communities/education/home-learning-hub/>

Visit ChessKid

This is a great free resource at the moment to help children learn chess or play against their friends. <https://www.chesskid.com/>

Cooking Activities

Now that you are at home more you can allow children to become more involved in cooking. This is fun, and good for talking about measurements which is important in Maths. Click here for child friendly recipes <https://realfood.tesco.com/recipes/collections/easy-recipes-for-kids.html>