



## Study Skills and Homework Success

### 1. **Have a place.**

Somewhere in your house or apartment is a place where you like to be alone. Make that your study place. Be fussy! Make sure everyone in your family knows it is your place. Keep paper, pencils, and other supplies there. Put your schoolbooks there every afternoon when you come home.

### 2. **Have a time.**

There is a time of day when you can study best. Maybe it's early in the morning when the house is quiet. Maybe it's right after school. Maybe it's in the evening when the dishes are done. Set yourself a certain length of time to study. Start with  $\frac{1}{2}$  hour to 1 hour. Tell your friends and family that this is your study time and you do not want to be disturbed. Put a "DO NOT DISTURB" sign on your door!

### 3. **Use your time.**

If you have more than one assignment, divide up your study hour. (For example, 15 minutes for math, 20 minutes for English, etc.) Work on one assignment until time runs out, then go on to the next. You may have time before your hour is up to go back and finish incomplete assignments. You will soon learn to estimate how long an assignment will take. You will soon stay on task and use your time better. If you finish early, go back over your work and check for errors again. Use the whole hour.

### 4. **Read directions.**

This advice can help you in everything you do. A minute spent reading directions CAREFULLY can save you many minutes of wasted and confused work that may have to be thrown away.

### 5. **Ask for help.**

Sometimes your assignment may seem difficult. If you are confused, read it aloud. If you are still puzzled, read it to someone else. And if you can't figure it out, put a question mark beside it and be sure to ask your teacher to explain it to you. Your teacher needs to know how to help you.

### 6. **Turn OFF the TV or the radio.**

You only want to listen to your own thoughts!