

Strategy

Homework Hassles, Homework Helpers

Even though there are some very good reasons why teachers give homework, we admit it can be a hassle, so we've come up with some ideas to help you "grin and bear it."

- 1. When I get home from school, I can't remember which homework I am supposed to do.**
Even if you think you will remember homework, use your assignment book to write down every assignment.
- 2. Sometimes when I get home from school, I have forgotten the books I need in order to do the assignment.**
Before you leave a class and before you leave school for the day, look at your assignment book to check that you have all the materials you will need to do homework.
- 3. I don't always understand the work, so I can't understand the homework.**
Before you leave a class, reread your assignment book to be sure you understand the assignment. If not, ask another student or the teacher to clarify it for you.
- 4. Sometimes it seems like there's too much to do and I feel overwhelmed and can't get it all done.**
Estimate how long you believe each assignment should take. Decide whether anything can be left until tomorrow. Then, prioritize with a to-do list. Reschedule non-homework activities to give yourself as much time as possible.
- 5. I work too slowly or I lose concentration, so I don't always finish.**
If you have trouble staying on task or work slowly, set a timer for 20 minutes. Work diligently during that time, then reward yourself with a mini-break. After about five minutes, return to work. If homework assignments continue to be too heavy, see if your teacher will modify the amount for you or give you more time to complete it.
- 6. After I turn in an assignment, the teacher says it's not complete enough.**
Find out from the teacher why you are being penalized. While doing your assignment, make sure that you have included all the necessary details and answered the question. Reread the question to check that your answer is complete.
- 7. After I get to school, I can't find my work, even though I've done it.**
Follow the plan for organizing your materials. Immediately put all your completed work into your bookbag.