

Reprintable Tips for Parents and Students

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5 Ways to Help Your Children Attend School From Home

By Wenona Young, Mentor Manager at Tutor.com

1. Establish a routine that includes a mixture of activities to address learning, physical activity, socialization, and FUN!
2. Organize a comfortable space where the child can work from each day.
 - This can be a small table and chair, a beanbag chair, or even the kitchen table .
 - Ensure that the area has all of the supplies needed for learning for the day (pencils, pens, crayons, markers, paper, rulers, etc.).
3. Communicate with teachers to ensure that you as the parent understand the expectations for your child's learning.
 - Is there a class website? Google Classroom? Schoology page?
 - Be sure that you have the login information and can check on your child's progress.
4. Foster accountability in your children by providing opportunities for them to demonstrate learning. Questions such as, *"Can you teach me what you learned today?"* or, *"What was the best part of that lesson for you?"* can help elicit responses that encourage kids to be accountable for their learning.
5. Be flexible if the routine falls apart! Sometimes a break or a nap will help children (and parents) reset for the day.

5 Ways to Keep Your Kid's Skills Up Over the Summer

By Amy Dietzman, Ph.D., Learning and Design Manager at Tutor.com

1. Read, read, read!

- If they are old enough to read on their own, let them pick their own book, but make sure you have them summarize what's happening in the story every few days.
- Consider reading the same book with your child (not necessarily at the same time), and then ask them questions to check their reading comprehension.
- If your child is not old enough to read on their own, read aloud to them every day. Ask questions to ensure comprehension.

2. Grab a summer workbook (available online at Barnes and Noble or Amazon).

- Assign a couple pages a day or even every other day.
- Let your child pick the time of day they prefer and then schedule their work time. Staying consistent is important for maintaining a routine.
- Not sure what areas to focus on? Try topics in math or handwriting.

3. Play spelling games.

- You can do this anywhere! Go for a "scavenger walk" outside and ask your kids to spell different things they find.
- Cook dinner with your kids. Have them spell your ingredients.
- Play around in the pool and instead of using points, use letters that spell words!

4. Check your school or district website for summer requirements.

If your child will be taking any advanced, honors, or AP® courses in the coming school year, they will most likely have summer reading or projects to complete.

- Keep your teens from procrastinating until the last week before school starts.
- Schedule regular check-ins to review progress and hold them accountable.

5. Use everyday activities as learning opportunities.

- If you're in the grocery store, spell things you need and send your kids to find them. You can also have your child read the grocery list aloud to you.
- Have your kids practice math by figuring out prices of items and adding them together. They can even practice percentages (e.g., What is the price at 20% off?).
- If your kids are older, send them to the internet to do shopping research for you. Have them find the best price and read the reviews to find you the best product!

5 Benefits of Working with a Tutor

By Jennifer Boller, Director of Mentoring & Quality Control at Tutor.com

1. Tutoring Creates a One-to-One Experience with 100% Focus on the Student

- Working with a tutor offers a personalized experience based on the academic, support, and motivational needs of the individual student.
- A tutor works at the student's pace, taking the time necessary to ensure understanding before moving on.
- Working with a tutor provides an environment for students to take chances.

2. Tutoring Improves Proficiencies Needed for Success in and out of the Classroom

- It increases student knowledge in core subject areas.
- It helps create effective study skills and increased work ethic in students.
- It aids students in developing important social and communication skills.

3. Tutoring Builds Confidence

- Tutors offer feedback and encouragement to cultivate in students a positive attitude towards learning and school.
- Tutoring can result in improved grades and increased self-esteem.

4. Tutoring Encourages Critical Thinking and Intellectual Independence

- Tutors promote in-depth discussions with learners to ensure understanding of concepts and to equip students to handle similar problems in the future.
- Tutoring also encourages independent work so that learners can utilize new skills to successfully conquer challenges when they are back in the classroom.

5. Tutoring Cultivates a Growth Mindset

- Tutoring allows students to see mistakes as growth opportunities and challenges to be met—rather than as unachievable outcomes.
- Finally, tutoring promotes life skills that can take learners beyond the classroom, empowering them to handle the trials of life whenever they arise.

6 Ways to Make the Best of Your Time with a Tutor

By Jennifer Boller, Director of Mentoring & Quality Control at Tutor.com

1. Clarify your needs.

- If you need help with a specific problem or assignment, try to explain exactly what part is giving you trouble. The more information you can share in the beginning, the less time the tutor will have to spend asking questions.
- If you need help with a concept, strategy, or idea, but do not have a specific problem to work through, you can still get help. You can, for example, share what your class is currently working on and the tutor can help you review.

2. Come prepared.

- Be ready to show the tutor what you have been able to work on so far. This will allow the tutor to see where you might be struggling and help them to choose an approach that will work for you.
- Have any class notes or assignment instructions available for your tutoring session. This can help the tutor guide you based on the methods and approaches being used in class.

3. Stay engaged.

- Tutors are there to provide support. They will ask questions to get you thinking and involved in the learning.
- When you are engaged, the tutor will be able to make sure you understand the information being discussed in order to give you the help you need.

4. Ask questions. If you don't understand something, let the tutor know! They will take the time to provide additional explanations, information and resources to make sure you can keep pace.

5. Take chances. There are no mistakes made when you're learning, only challenges to conquer—and your tutor is there to help you do just that.

6. Learn and have fun! Every day, learning is happening all over the world. The more you learn, the more you grow. And the more fun you make it, the more excited you will be about learning new things! 😊