

Skills to Help Your Child Become More Independent – All Grade Levels

Kindergarten:

- 1. Help your child become independent by encouraging and expecting them to do self-help skills such as tying shoes and zipping jackets. When kids have responsibility at home they also become a responsible student. Simple chores like setting or clearing the table empower kids and help them become empathetic to the work that others are doing!**
- 2. Read to and with them and talk about it! The conversation around what you read is equally important and valuable as the act of reading. Using the 5W's (who, what, where, when, why?) in the conversation helps check for their comprehension, as well as teaching them to check for their understanding when reading independently. Ask questions such as: Who is the story/text about? Where is the character in the story/text? What's happening to/around the main character? When did the story/event take place? Why did that happen? The act of reading and talking about what's being read is perfect for both bonding and comprehension checks. Plus, it builds a greater tolerance and love for reading and thinking about reading!**

First Grade:

- 1. Read 20 minutes every night.**
- 2. Practice math fact fluency (ex: adding and subtracting, flash cards).**
- 3. Ask them questions while reading.**
- 4. Ask students what they are writing about in Writer's Workshop and help come up with new ideas for new stories.**
- 5. Keep a journal to practice their writing (ex: ask them to write about one thing that happened that day).**

Second Grade:

- 1. Read 20 minutes every night.**
- 2. Ask them a few questions about what they read (especially if they are reading longer books).**
- 3. Practice their word study words in a way that best helps them.**
- 4. Do the weekly math homework, reach out to their teacher if they need help.**
- 5. Take a break and do something fun as a family!**

Third Grade:

- 1. Read with your child every night.**
- 2. Ask questions about what they are reading.**
- 3. Practice math multiplication facts.**
- 4. Check your child's math homework.**
- 5. Study weekly spelling words and their meanings.**

Fourth Grade:

- 1. Read 20 minutes every night (listen to your child or even read to them).**
- 2. Ask questions after reading (main character, character traits, problem and solutions)**
- 3. Study spelling words for a few minutes every night.**
- 4. Math videos (you can Google "Eureka, Mmodule 1, Lesson 1").**
- 5. Weekly writing (help for complete sentences and paragraphs when needed).**

Fifth Grade:

- 1. Check student planners and the blog for nightly homework and news you can use.**
- 2. Read 20 minutes every night (listen to your child or even read to them) and record on reading log.**
- 3. Study spelling words for a few minutes every night.**
- 4. Complete math homework every night - watch math videos to help when needed (you can google Eureka, module 1, lesson1).**
- 5. Remind students to bring a charged iPad to school every day.**