

How much non-school-related screen time should I allow on a school night?

Try the [American Academy of Pediatrics Family Media Plan](#) to calculate a schedule that works for your family.

How can I curb my kid's multitasking during homework?

In the classroom, teachers who use tech often have to personally monitor students to make sure they're focusing on work, not fooling around on their devices. At home, [it's a good idea to reduce or eliminate multitasking because it really takes a toll on learning](#) -- and it can drag out homework duties. Set up a homework zone in a common area where you can keep an eye on their activities. Make it device-free if possible -- although sometimes kids legitimately need them for study apps or for checking assignments. Keep devices out of the bedroom, because texting and sleeping is about the worst multitasking kids can do. If they have to use devices and you can't closely supervise, consider downloading a parental control app that limits access to entertainment during homework, such as unGlue. You can also [enable Restrictions or Guided Access on iPhones or use Google's Family Link on Android devices to help keep kids on task](#). But you'll probably still need to spot check.

What do I need to know if my kid has to download an app or register for a site for homework?

Teachers who use technology or expect students to use it at home generally have a plan for keeping you in the loop. [They should supply a list of the tools that kids will need access to at home and a process for notifying you if anything changes during the year.](#)

How can I use technology at home to support in-class learning?

Nearly every app or website for kids is labeled "educational," but not all of them are really good for learning. If you're looking for tech tools that you can use to support your kid's in-class learning at home, think of three broad categories: instructional tools that teach academic subjects; creation tools that let kids express themselves; and communities that offer a supportive, collaborative sharing space. These can be apps, websites, games, design programs, and social worlds. Here are some to try:

Instructional	Creation	Social
Khan Academy PBS Kids BrainPOP IXL Google Art Project Friends Around the World CK-12	Minecraft Algodoo Procreate Popplet Explain Everything Classic Animoto Video Maker Code.org	DIY LittleBigPlanet 2 Historypin Scratch