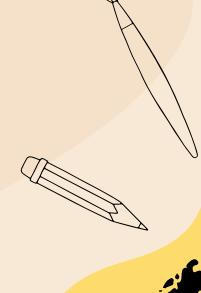




# Supporting Students' Learning

at home during the Covid-19 pandemic



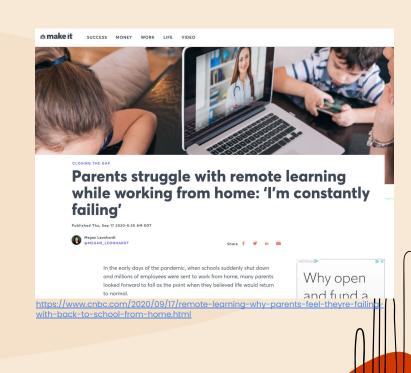


### **Important Reminder**

These times are not normal and they add challenges to our daily lives

Many students and families are struggling throughout the country

If you or your kid is having difficulty, you are not alone and you're not to blame

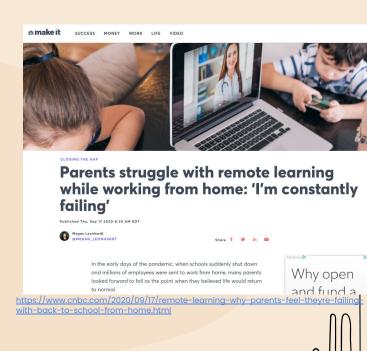




### **Important Reminder**

We offer strategies for families based on research in education

But we can also use this space to brainstorm practical solutions





## BUT FIRST,

Are there things that you are having difficulty with when supporting your child in his/her classes?



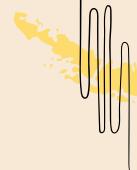


# Strategies to Consider













## 1) Talking with your child about how they're doing

### Strategy

Why this strategy is important

- Check in on your child and ask them how they are doing emotionally.
- Kids might be overwhelmed with the amount of homework they are getting during the pandemic.

- Ask your child if and how they're
  having problems with their schoolwork.
  Is it because they find it boring, they do
  not understand the homework, or are
  they not getting the help they need?
- Understanding the root of your child's problem is a first step to making sure you are taking appropriate actions to address the problem





## 1) Talking with your child about how they're doing

### Strategy

Explain to your child why it is important that they do their homework (e.g., to get good grades so they can go to college and get a good paying job)

Why this strategy is important

Show the meaning and value of schoolwork and education for the short-term and long-term









## 2) Learning and doing activities together

- Engage in the math games and refreshers from today with your children
- Other places online to learn STEM together:

### **PBS Digital Studios**

- o **Physics Girl**
- o <u>Two Cents</u> (financial literacy)

### PBS LearningMedia Collections: can help with specific skills

- o Math at the Core
- o <u>Khan Academy</u>
- o <u>Cyberchase</u>

Study Hall - Algebra

NASA family engagement

JPL Education Activities



## 2) Why learning and doing activities together is helpful

• Helps parents relearn math skills that their children are learning

 Makes it more likely that parents can help students with what they're learning in school

• Can help start or continue students' interest in math

Can help strengthen family bonds!













ABC

### 3) Creating a structure for learning

 Talk with kids about space and time that they prefer to do school work; set up a designated place at home and time for doing homework

 Make an after-school schedule with your child. When to do schoolwork and when to have fun/free time

Consistency is key!

 Make the place and time kids do their homework the same everyday as much as possible; Make this a routine that kids can expect



### 3) Creating a structure for learning

 Keep the home quiet during the time your child does their homework as much as possible

• Be flexible. Know when your child needs a break and for how long.

 Talk to your child about boundaries (e.g., when or when not to enter a room when they are in a zoom class meeting)



### Examples of an after-school schedule







Create a routine/schedule with your child and be flexible to your child's preferences!



## 3) Why having structure, schedule, and routines are helpful

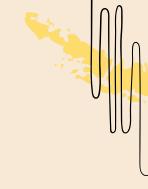
 Though this may be hard, having a schedule for learning helps students know and expect what's going to happen during the day

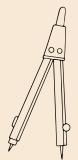
 Helps students know specific expectations you have for them in their learning





# Checking homework









## 4) Consistently check homework every day

Use your phone/devices to set alarms and reminders when you need you will check your child's homework

 Have your child show you their homework everyday when they are done and have them show you they submitted their homework online.

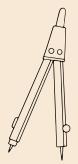
 Have your child save their homework assignment in a folder in their desktop after they have submitted it in case there is a technical difficulty and the teacher can't see it.













### 5) Rewards and Consequences

- Give the child a reward <u>once in a while</u> for doing their homework
  - (e.g., make the their favorite food); does not have to cost money
  - Avoid promising rewards beforehand; rewards shouldn't be expected

- Set consequences for your child if they do not complete their homework and <u>follow through</u>
  - Avoid yelling or inflicting hurt on your child.
  - Instead try to take away their privileges for a certain amount of time (e.g., something they really value, like their phone)

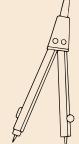




06

# Get help from your family, friends, and neighbors









Lung Disease & Respiratory Health > Coronavirus > News >

WEBMD HEALTH NEWS

### **Parents Turn to 'Pods'** for School During **Pandemic**

By Jennifer Clopton

Aug. 14, 2020 -- This summer, Lian Chang and her husband were trying to figure out how some child care and socialization would be possible for their 3-year-old while still managing exposure to COVID.

"Like so many other families, the pandemic changed things in so many ways, so we were in the middle of talking with another family about creating a pod," Chang says.







What Is the Pandemic Doing to Our Children?

https://www.webmd.com/lung/news/20200814/parents-turn-to-pod s-for-school-during-pandemic







#### Low-income parents turn to neighbors, family for help with distance learning













SPECIAL COVERAGE - UPDATED DAILY

https://edsource.org/2020/low-income-parents-turn-to-neighb orhood-networks-for-help-with-distance-learning/639061

### 6) Help from your social connections

One parent can't do these things by him/herself

 Share responsibilities with other family members in making sure that kids are doing the homework and checking homework

Create family/neighborhood study and homework groups





# 6) Why getting help from friends and neighbors are helpful

 "It takes a village." Shares the responsibility so that one parent isn't over-burdened with supporting students

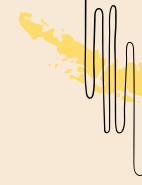
 Imitates a classroom learning structure and setting; gets kids in a "learning mode"

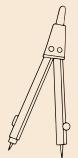
Additional checks from other people for kids to complete their schoolwork















### 7) Talking with your child's teachers

 Know teacher's contact information (If you don't know, ask your child; ask or have child ask during classes)

 If you don't feel comfortable talking with teachers, it may help to ask family members or friends to help you talk with teachers

Call or send out a quick, short message to teacher to initiate getting help



# 7) Initiating conversation with teachers Example email/phone

(Feel free to copy and paste!)

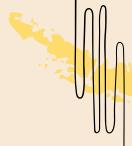
Dear [Teacher],

My name is [Your Name]. I am the parent of [Child name]. I would like to speak with you about my child's progress in your class. Would you be able to contact me at [contact information] when you are available? The best time to talk to me would be [Times to call teacher].

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
[Your Name]

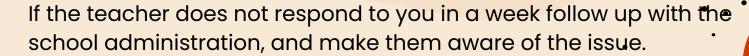




# 7) Work with teachers to know what your child needs and the best way to help

### Some questions to ask your child's teacher (if you don't know yet):

- 1) How to check your children's school assignments through online portals (canvas, google classroom)?
- 2) How to check for grades and missing assignments online?
- 3) How to get alerts every week to see which assignments your child has coming up?
- 4) How can I monitor my child's progress and school assignments?
- 5) How can I support my child at home?
- 6) Where can I get my child help if I can't help them?
- 7) Can I meet with you via the phone, skype, or zoom?





### **Additional Resources and Readings for You!**

- https://www.today.com/parents/how-homeschool-during-coronavirus-crisis-t176020
- https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/children/learning.html
- https://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/health/conditions-and-diseases/coronavirus/kids-learning-at-home
- https://www.familyeducation.com/at-home-learning-resources-for-the-covid-19-outbreak
- <a href="https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/mentalhealth/children">https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/mentalhealth/children</a>







Click <u>here</u> to learn more about our research study on parents' support of Math CEO students' math learning!





