

Feeling Marooned?

# Helping Your Elementary School Child With Homework



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Originally presented 8/2013

# Why Homework?

There are three purposes for homework:

1. Practice
2. Preparation
3. Elaboration



# Why Homework?

- Students need about 20 practice sessions before they grasp the new skill enough to use it effectively on their own.



# What the research says

- ◆ Robert Marzano and several other researchers have done studies to determine which student/teacher practices impact student learning significantly. His research showed that homework had an effect size of .77, anything above .25 is considered significant.



# What's a parent to do???

- ◆ Set The Stage

- ◆ Quiet place
- ◆ Free of distractions
- ◆ Well-lit, clutter free
- ◆ Needed materials

# What's a parent to do???

- ◆ Time it Right

- ◆ When they arrive home from school.
- ◆ Provide a snack and debrief time
- ◆ Schedule extra-curricular activities later in the day.
- ◆ Bedtime is never the time to rush through homework.

# What's a parent to do???

- ◆ It's not *your* homework, it's theirs.
  - ◆ It is important that *you* are involved to see what *your* child is learning.
  - ◆ Be nearby to monitor their frustration level and to be support.
  - ◆ Take short breaks, if needed.
  - ◆ It will give them a sense of pride if they are able to complete the work on their own.

# What's a parent to do???

- ◆ Get excited and be positive
  - ◆ Let your child know this is a grown up thing they are able to do.
  - ◆ Let your child know how proud you are of them and their ability to do the work on their own.
  - ◆ Have your child show you the completed work and praise them for finishing their work with a smile.



# What's a parent to do???

- ◆ Develop a routine and procedure
  - ◆ Place and time to work
  - ◆ What to do with homework when finished.
  - ◆ Backpack by the door before bed

# Parent resources



- ◆ Your child's teacher
  - ◆ Keep the lines of communication open. Let the teacher know about problems.
- ◆ Local library
  - ◆ Computer access, library card
- ◆ Older siblings, cousins, neighbors

# Web resources

- ◆ Tutor.com
- ◆ Scholastic.com
- ◆ Xtramath.com

