



# HOMWORK TIPS FOR SEK STUDENTS... and their parents...

## Set up a homework routine.

If you don't have a routine set up yet, do it as soon as you can. Students work better when they have a routine that is right for them. Some do better right after school. While others need to come home and decompress for a while before they can face their homework. It doesn't matter

what time you choose, just make a conscious choice with your child and try to stick to it.



## Limit Distractions.

**LOOK!**  
**A Distraction!**



Our students LOVE video games, texting, Youtube and Facebook! Insist that they wait for a break to engage in these activities. Keeping video games open on their laptop is a huge distraction. Save it for a break or when the work is down as a reward!

## Have a consistent Place.

A desk or table top that is used everyday helps with concentration. Make sure the designated homework place is free of noisy distractions and interruptions like TV, younger siblings and conversations of others.



## Not Good at Math or Writing? Don't Tell Your Kids.

Instead, tell them you understand math or writing is really tough but you know they can do it. If you can't help, make sure you know who can (perhaps a tutor) or look online for great resources like tutorials and videos that break down tough concepts.



## Become a Time Management EXPERT.

SEK students need to balance academics, family time and other activities. Help your children put together a schedule either online or use an erasable whiteboard—whatever works for your family. Make sure

you add in study/homework time each school night. After several months your child may be able to take over the calendar with less help.



## Big Projects? Start Small.

SEK students have some long-term assignments such as Projects and essays that could be assigned in October but due in November. It's easy to procrastinate and then find your son or daughter in a panic a few days before the due date. Help them map out a plan where they complete a piece of the assignment every day or every few days. Having regular due dates will help keep projects on track and reduce last-minute meltdowns.



## Take A Break.

Research shows students don't concentrate well for long periods. Rather than demanding your child finish all his/her homework in one sitting, encourage him/her to take breaks every 20-30 minutes. That's a great time to check their phone, get a snack or just get up and stretch. They'll complain less and be more productive. Keep the break short or it can be hard to return to the work.



**Celebrate.** I am a big believer in celebrating your child's successes! A great grade in Arabic, finished essay or a week of completed homework assignments deserves some recognition. Come up with something that works for your family – maybe it's dessert at your favorite ice cream shop or a new app. Your child will appreciate being celebrated!

