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## Bringing an Element of Fun to Homework Time

If there's ever a time in a parent's life when certain answers fail to present themselves, [homework time is one of them](#). Just as couples may argue about finances, the parent-child battle over doing homework ranks high on the list of family fights. But there are many ways to mediate the struggle, including bringing in a tutor, or using technology to make homework time appealing for the entire family. The [Association for Language Learning](#) shares a few below.

### **Introduce an element of fun to the homework table**

To make homework time fun and productive, it's good to create an environment where learning can happen without unnecessary impediments and distractions like stress. When you take some [simple steps like decluttering](#) and organizing, you optimize the living space for everyone. You could even add a few houseplants around where homework is completed to bring in a little nature, helping to purify the air as well.

VerywellMind points out that [everyone responds well to rewards](#). If you are still thinking of your child's homework as part of their job as a student, then a reward of some kind is like payday. This prize could be a toy or game, an experience (like a visit or a show), some video game /

screen time, or even something that can both entertain and assist them with their learning process. In fact, video games are great at stimulating different kinds of learning. A tablet is a wonderful option for just such a reward and has the added bonus of being ready to assist future homework assignments.

### **Rule out conflict at school**

It may have been a while since you were in school, so try to empathize with your child's situation. Maybe your young ones are having a rough time at school socially, or perhaps they are struggling with a certain subject or two. They could be [butting heads with their peers](#) or even one of their teachers. These types of troubles could add up to a negative feeling about school in general.

If you think of your kids as small adults, with school as their place of employment and homework as their auxiliary workload, you may understand their plight. Children, especially once they reach a certain age, contend with any number of challenges that, as parents, you might inadvertently overlook.

### **Consider differences in learning styles**

Some children are fighting an uphill battle if they have an underlying issue that should be addressed. Vanderbilt University notes that there are [many ways to learn](#), but not all are supported in schools. Conditions such as Attention Deficit Disorder, dyslexia, and even shyness can play a role in how young people approach learning. These types of challenges can be attended to in a professional setting, and help you and your family to decide the next steps. Removing obstacles to your child's education will be critical for solving the problem for good.

There are many apps available to aid children with specific subjects – for Languages, Duolingo has a useful focus on vocabulary, while there are lots of informal resources on YouTube which combine language and entertainment. Streaming videos are often a good choice for kids who learn through watching and exposure to hearing the language. Apps are also a great way to relieve the knowledge burden you may bear as a parent assisting your child.

### **Clarify your expectations**

Make sure your child is aware of what exactly needs to be accomplished each day. This could be as simple as putting up a homework chart that will fill up with gold stars as they work. You might break bigger projects into smaller sections, and time each work session. Checking in periodically while your child works and allowing time for small breaks can be beneficial. Some, but not all, young people like to talk about their work too.

By making sure your child has all the tools they need to learn and becoming involved in the process – as well as addressing any issues such as bullying and considering the various learning styles – you can help them manage the workload and make it much easier for all of you!

The [Association for Language Learning](#) is the UK's major subject association for those involved in the teaching of foreign languages at all levels. Contact us today to learn more! +44 (0)1332 227779.

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