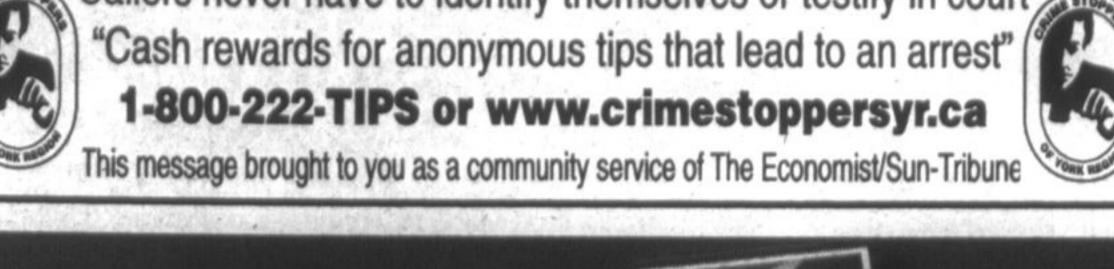
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VAVAROUTSOS

# Homework for students, parents

BY TERESA LATCHFORD Staff Writer

When the children go back to school, parents get homework.

The Ontario Ministry of Education has a few tips for parents to help all year round.

- Routine: Homework can be habit forming so work out a schedule and enforce it. Your child will know what is expected of him and eventually complete his homework without you ask-
- Make space: Find a bright spot away from distractions such as siblings, television, radio, conversation and video games so

your child can concentrate.

• Practice makes perfect: Repetition reinforces learning so have your children practice the essentials, reading, writing and math everyday for ten to 15 minutes.

• Just ask: Take a few moments everyday to ask your child "how was your day?" Children will become more excited about school if you take an interest.

• Check in: When working on homework alone, children's mind tend to drift so it is a good idea to pop your head into the room, ask if there are any questions and discuss a homework problem if your child is having difficulty.

Assign your own homework:

Everyday tasks can be a learning experience including searching newspapers, reading recipes and creating shopping lists. Even the smallest task can be a big lesson.

 Applause: Encouragement gives children confidence. At the end of every homework session let your child know you appreciate and admire the effort.

 Question and answer: Encourage curiosity and questions which helps your child learn and make it fun. Let him know it is acceptable to ask for help when needed.

For more tips visit www.edu.gov.on.ca



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