

Helping you learn for a lifetime!

By Laura S. Nata



Strong study skills are essential to succeed in school and in life. Develop a study plan and learn how to manage your time effectively to maximize your results. It isn't enough to just sit inside a classroom and hope to soak up the knowledge a teacher is presenting. The earlier you can develop these skills, the greater your chance of academic success.

As we know not everyone learns the same way. So, not everyone will study the same. Some people need silence to review textbooks, and handouts to prepare for an exam. Others study better in a group bouncing ideas off each other. The study skills you develop will be based heavily on your learning style. So this is important to understand how you learn (www.learningguide.org/learningstyles.htm).

1. Most students have an agenda book, but they don't write anything in it. Number one mistake.
2. Dedicate and color code a binder, folder or notebook per subject. There should be a place for class notes, handouts and homework assignments.
3. Make study cards. On the front of a note card write the word or idea. On the back, write the definition or important information.

4. Make your own study guide. Look at chapter headings, section headings and review sections at the end of a chapter for other important information to add to your study guide.
5. Talk about assignments with friends. Discussing assignments with friends is another great way to study. Friendly discussions about books help deepen understanding.
6. When in doubt, ask for help. Start by talking to the teacher and guidance counselor on help or list of tutors in the area.
7. Make academics a focus in your life. Studying takes time and effort. Get organized, ask for help and put forth effort aimed at improving your study habits now.

The lessons taught early on are building blocks for high school and college. Starting good study habits now will help you later in life. It does take more effort to study and to become organized, but success will make you feel good about yourself and bring you a long way.

I found two websites that provides study skills and much more to help improve the child in every grade. Check it out these sites:

<http://www.schoolfamily.com/homework> and www.studytips.org.