

Ahhh!

Please help with homework!

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Presented by:
Kimberly Benjamin, MA, BCBA
Shanna Benveniste, MA, BCBA



Behavioral Learning Center, Inc.
www.BehavioralLearningCenter.com

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Identify effective strategies for students with a variety of challenges related to homework
2. Describe multiple challenges that students face when completing homework
 - Environmental factors
 - Disability related issues
 - Typical homework related issues
3. Implement strategies to successfully manage homework refusal



MODIFY THE ENVIRONMENT

Create a homework space that works for your student

- Lighting, desk space, colors, materials they enjoy, bulletin board, comfortable chair, etc.
- Designate one space where they can work on homework and then clean up



MODIFY THE ENVIRONMENT

Have all necessary materials available for your child

- Keep them near the homework space
- Task boxes with all necessary materials

Provide Organizational Tools

- Calendars, task lists, whiteboard, timers, file boxes, etc.
- Label supplies to help your student find things they need



MODIFY THE ENVIRONMENT

Limit Distractions

- Turn off television! Even if it is in another room it can be distracting
- Provide noise canceling headphones or earplugs if there are other distractions such as multiple children
- Provide other children with quiet activities to do during homework time

Homework Cubby



TASK BOX

Keep all necessary materials in one spot

- Container to keep all items
- Label where things go
- Keep it in same place
- Kids can get it out and put it back
- Good if you are using a shared space such as the dining room



GIVING CHOICE

- Alternative locations may be a good way of providing choice. "Do you want to do your homework in the dining room or at your desk?"
 - Provide the needed materials to complete homework such as a clipboard or lap desk
- Choice of materials to be used
 - Color of pen, pencil, or crayon, paper, etc.
- What order assignments are done
 - Intersperse easy tasks with more difficult tasks
 - Consider starting with hardest task if this will help your child focus and then move to easier tasks
 - Consider starting off with an easier task if this will help your child ease into the homework session

ROUTINE

- Create an after school routine
 - Determine routine that will work best for your child
- Write it down and post in homework area
- Put event in an order that will help them complete tasks and reduce challenging behavior
 - Start homework right after school if this helps your child
 - Have a snack or take a break first if needed and then transition to homework
- Use first then contingency. "First homework then video games"



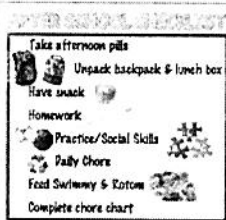
ROUTINE

- Review the after school/evening routine on the way home from school or when you first arrive home (set expectations)
 - When there are changes to the regular routine - write them down
- Write list of activities on a checklist to assist your student with completion
- Have a snack or take a break first if needed and then transition to homework



ROUTINE

- Limit time spent on homework to periods of time that your student can be successful
 - If they can only sit for 10 minutes then break homework into 10 minute segments separated by a break
 - Set a timer to help you and your student keep track of time



TASK REDUCTION

- Break tasks down into manageable parts
 - Amount or length
- Provide breaks as needed
 - Only provide a break when your student is completing homework
 - If a break is provided when homework is not being completed the request for a break may be task avoidant
- Use break cards for students to request breaks



VISUAL SUPPORTS

- Task lists, white boards, checklists, visual schedules, etc.

Sand Timers



Time Tracker Learning Resources



Lakeshore Learning



www.timelimer.com

TIME MANAGEMENT

- Create a system to assist your child with managing their time during the afternoon
- LEGOs or Duplos to demonstrate time
 - Blocks labeled with events during after school routine (homework, free time, friends, snack, etc.)
 - Place additional block to demonstrate wasted time (i.e., arguing)



TIME MANAGEMENT

- Clothesline time line for after school routine
- Eye hooks, string, 3x5 index cards
- Fold index cards in half and label with activities
- Hang string using eye hooks and place folded cards with activities over string in order of routine
- Write schedule daily and place it on white, black or bulletin board
- Magnets may be labeled with activities and placed on magnetic board



REINFORCEMENT

- Provide frequent reinforcement during and after homework completion
- Reinforcement increases the likelihood that behavior will continue
- Behaviors that are reinforced are strengthened
- When student is displaying appropriate behaviors reinforcement should be provided

Tangible	Attention	Break	Praise	Tokens
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to activities they want to do • Items your child likes • Toys they want to play with • Edibles (food) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical attention • Hugs • High fives • Your time • High quality • Undivided 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove tasks for completing homework • Provide assistance to make tasks easier • Free time to do activities they want to do 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific praise telling the student exactly what they are doing right • Your approval • Provide praise immediately following the behavior 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create reward chart (sticker chart) • Develop token economy where student can earn tokens and exchange them for items

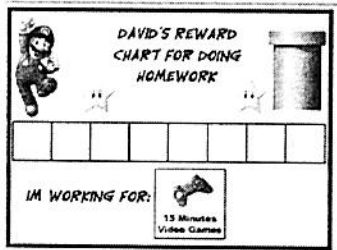
REINFORCEMENT

- Effective reinforcement
- Tell the child exactly what they did "I like the way you started your homework right when I asked you" - specific praise
- Immediate - provide feedback right when behavior is noticed
- Provide reinforcement that matches the size of the behavior
 - Homework completion = 15 minutes of video games

I finished my homework



REWARD CHART



THANK YOU!



Behavioral Learning Center, Inc.
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Kimberly Benjamin, MA, BCBA
kbenjamin@blcca.com

Shanna Benveniste, MA, BCBA
sbenveniste@blcca.com

Santa Clarita
661-254-7086

Antelope Valley
661-947-9554

San Fernando
818-308-6226
