



## Has the Dog Eaten Your Homework Again!?!



Use the **H.O.M.E.W.O.R.K.** acronym for the basis to answering the questions on the checklist!

### **HOME:**

It's very important within your home to have place for all school items to go & a routine in place!

- ✓ Is there a set place in your house for school bags, lunch kits, sports gear?
- ✓ Are there established routines around getting out of the house in the morning, returning home from school, and/or doing homework? Are these established routines working?
- ✓ What time and place is set aside for homework completion? Is it the same time & place every day? Is this the time & place working for the family?

### **ORGANIZE:**

In HOME, you have developed a structure. In organization, you are ensuring your structure has all the right tools. And, if you are uber-organized there is no time taken to find all your tools!

- ✓ Do you have the proper tools (examples are: a binder with pockets, highlighters, pens, pencils, calculator, divider, dictionary, thesaurus, paper, stickies, agenda, etc.)?
- ✓ Are these tools readily available?

### **MICKEY MOUSE:**

In ORGANIZE, you have all the tools to begin. Now, you need the right attitude! "What ever you do, do it well. Do it so well that when people see you do it they will want to come back and see you do it again and they will want to bring others and show them how well you do what you do. I only hope that we don't lose sight of one thing – that it was all started by a mouse" a Walt Disney quote! Imagine doing homework in that way!

- ✓ Is homework thought of as something just to be done because you have to do it or because it's a stepping stone to something else?
- ✓ Do you attempt to do something knowing that you will make mistakes?

### **ENVIRONMENT:**

In MICKEY MOUSE, you have the right attitude to begin! Now let's check your environment!

- ✓ Are there distractions (for example: electronics or other activities happening in your homework space)? Can you work well with distractions?
- ✓ Have you had enough food? Water?

## WHAT SUBJECT:

In ENVIRONMENT, you have set up the right atmosphere in which to work. Let's get to the specifics of the actual work itself!

- ✓ Is the homework item from a favourite subject or does this subject bring on anxiety? Which subject item do you choose to do first?
- ✓ Is there an awareness of how much time is being spent on homework? Does it make sense in relation to the homework being completed?
- ✓ As a parent, are you familiar with the subject? Does the subject cause you anxiety? Do you ever suggest to your child that they can't do it or that you can't help them with it?

## OBJECTIVE:

In WHAT SUBJECT, you have all the knowledge to begin. Let's get to what the purpose of this particular homework is.

- ✓ Is it meant to be review for what you have learned that day? What is your time estimate on doing the work? If you don't have that much time that particular evening, can you do pieces of it to get the same objective that it is meant for?
- ✓ For larger projects/exams, is there a planner used? Are you able to work from the due date backwards to set timelines for smaller steps to ensure projects and studying aren't left until the night before? Are there celebrations when each milestone is met?

## ROLE MODEL:

In OBJECTIVE, you have the purpose and time-line of the work understood. Make sure, as a parent, if you are stating that homework is important to do that your actions match your words!

- ✓ As a parent, how you respond to work you have to do it at home or on off work hours. Do you serve as an example of having a great attitude about having to do this "extra" work? Your behaviour is emulated by your children!
- ✓ Also, as a parent, do you take into consideration all of the above pieces of HOMEWORK (and almost K) to help your child do the best they can?

## KREATIVE:

In ROLE MODEL, you have ensured that everything above has been met. Now, let's get creative! This is such an important piece of learning as it's important for the person to be engaged in their learning and actually want to be a life long learner!

- ✓ How does your child learn? Are they a Visual (spatial), Aural (auditory-musical), Verbal (linguistic), Physical (kinesthetic), Logical (mathematical), Social (interpersonal), or Solitary (intrapersonal) learner?
- ✓ Once your child and you understand how he/she learns (and if necessary, connect with our Agency to take a short quiz which will help determine this), you can help your child what they need in order to best learn something! For example, one child may work well with flash cards for multiplication but another child doesn't. Perhaps you will find out that this child is a physical learner and taking them outside to play ball while memorizing their multiplication facts might work or simply using dice!