



Support your child as the end of the school year approaches

By May, some kids act like summer vacation has already started. They "forget" their homework. They stop giving their best effort and start avoiding anything that seems difficult or challenging. But the school year isn't over yet. Kids need to stay focused on learning until the last day of school. Here's how to help your child:

- Review old homework papers, quizzes and tests. Use them to talk with your child about how much she has learned this year. Having these papers close at hand will also be useful as she studies for end-of-year tests!
- Shape year-end learning around your child's interests. If she has one more book report due, suggest she choose a book on a topic she loves. If she has a social studies project, she should focus on something she is interested in learning about.
- Help your child manage her end-of-year projects. Long-range assignments can be overwhelming. So, in addition to helping your child break a big project down into smaller steps, encourage her to apply this rule of thumb: Move the deadline for finishing any big project earlier by two days. If a report is due on Wednesday, your child should plan to get it finished by Monday. That way, she'll have a cushion if (OK, when) something comes up!

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