

**Kingswells
Primary
School
Helpful Hints
For
Homework**

Primary 4



This booklet contains hints and ideas for you to try out with your child, as an aid to homework tasks and to their learning potential in general. We hope that you will find this series of leaflets both helpful and informative. If there are any aspects of this leaflet you wish to discuss, please contact school. Thank you for your support.

READING

Keep reading time relaxed, comfortable and pleasurable, in a quiet corner, with the television turned off. Try not to be critical—no child makes mistakes on purpose. PRAISE encourages your child to try their best. Be positive about your child's reading. Praise them if they do well and help if the book is difficult. Children should feel that reading is a successful activity.

- **Don't correct too quickly.** If your child makes an error suggest having another go, searching the pictures for a clue, sounding out the first letter or reading on before you 'tell' the problem word.
- When your child brings home a book that has been read before **ask for a summary** before reading it again, then discuss the book at a deeper level than last time.
- **Look through the book**, noticing interesting pictures and words, then read the opening together.
- As your child progresses, talk about authors, characters and plots or **what new information has been learnt**. Ask your child literal questions about the text, e.g. Where was the boy going? How many wishes were granted?
- **Ask your child more open ended questions and encourage discussion**, e.g. Why do you think the child was frightened? How do you think the little girl felt?
- **During reading talk** about "What has happened so far?" "Why do you think that happened?" and "What do you think will happen next?"
- **After reading ask:** "Was it a good ending?" and "Which part did you like best and why?" Don't forget to offer your opinions too.
- If your child reads silently **ask him/her to re-tell** the part that has been read and encourage the 'pointing out' of relevant sections in the text.
- Feel free to **read other books** with your child as well. You could read a recipe, a magazine, comics or something from the newspaper etc. All reading is beneficial.

PREPARING A TALK

You could help your child to find suitable information (perhaps including props, materials, etc.) and talk about it in a clear and organised way.

Preparing notes and practising the talk in front of family members is a useful exercise.

SPELLING

Continue to remind your child of the routine - **LOOK, SAY, COVER, WRITE** and **CHECK**. This should be repeated 3 times.

Point out any relationships which may exist between the words -

often if a child can spell one they can spell them all. Some additional activities may be given with the words e.g. sentences, identifying nouns, verbs, etc.

LANGUAGE WORK

Encourage legible handwriting, neat presentation and self-checking of spelling. Your child should be able to spell simple, commonly used words and make a good attempt at less familiar words. More difficult words can be left uncorrected so that the teacher can see the attempt made. Always encourage your child to use the best words they can in any written work.

GLOW

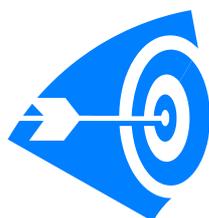
Teachers may choose to display homework on GLOW, Scottish Schools Digital Network, for pupils to access at home and where possible they may also access activities on GLOW Learn. Clear instructions on how to access Glow will be given to pupils in class and each child will be provided with their own log in information. Parents are encouraged to use their log in to access further information about learning in class. If it is not possible to access Glow at home, a paper copy of homework activities will be provided.

PROJECT / FINDING OUT TASKS

If required, please help your child to:

- Find a suitable resource (please give assistance in making sure books/websites are at an appropriate level)
- Find the answer to the question(s) / problem(s).
- Answer the questions set in their own words.
- Organise their findings / answers in a suitable way.

Please discourage your child from copying / printing out a large amount of information they do not understand.



MATHS

Oral maths work is still very important, especially learning multiplication tables. Continue to encourage quick recall of the 2, 3, 4, 5 and 10 times table 'families' and related facts. For example:

- $4 \times 5 = 20$ so $5 \times 4 = 20$ so
 $20 \div 5 = 4$ and $20 \div 4 = 5$.

The 6, 7, 8 and 9 times tables will be introduced during Primary 4. Where written work is needed, please encourage your child to show all of their working.

If you are not sure of a method, ask your child to explain to you how they do it.

PROBLEM SOLVING / DESIGN / INVESTIGATION

In this type of job there is often no correct answer to such tasks.

Encourage your child to think carefully about the task and discuss ideas with you. Help as little or as much as you feel is needed but please do not DO the task. Your child should always be able to tell the teacher what he / she did, used or tried and why.

Useful Websites and Contacts

- Grid Club: www.gridclub.com
- Parentzone: www.ltscotland.org.uk/parentzone
- BBC Parents: www.bbc.co.uk/schools/parents
- BBC Dynamo: www.bbc.co.uk/education/dynamo/parents
- BBC Bitesize: www.bbc.co.uk/schools/bitesize
- Channel 4 Homework: www.channel4learning.com/apps/homeworkhigh
- Parent Network Scotland: www.parentnetworkscotland.org.uk Tel: 0131 555 6780
- One Parent Families Scotland: www.opfs.org.uk Tel: 0808 801 0323
13 Gayfield Square,
Edinburgh,
EH1 3NX
- Glow: <https://portal.glowscotland.org.uk>