



# Educational Champion Training

## MODULE 2:

## Monitoring and Facilitating Learning

# Why Focus on Monitoring and Facilitating Learning?

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- When parents provide learning experiences and academic support **outside the classroom**, children are more likely to succeed in school.
- Identify in your home an **organized, designated, and distraction-free place** for the child to complete homework.
- **Set time every day** for the child to complete his/her homework.

## Keep track of how the child is doing in school.

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- **Keeping track of the child's progress** in school will help you stay aware of and identify any issues or concerns.
- It will also show the child that you take an **active interest in his/her education**.
- Here are some things you should do to keep track of how the child is doing in school:
  - Review the child's report cards,
  - Review the child's progress or mid-term reports,
  - Schedule and attend meetings with the teacher,
  - Access the child's grades, attendance records using the school's online information system

# General Tips for School Online Information Systems

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- Use the school's online portal as a tool to **enhance communication** with the child and teacher about his/ her progress in school.
- Use the online portal as a way to **avoid surprises** at the end of the semester or term.
- Use the online portal as a good starting point to talk to the child about **attendance**.

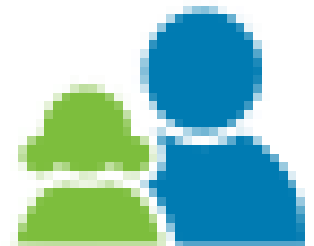
If you don't know if the school offers an online school portal, contact the school office to find out.

# Talk to the child about what he or she is learning at school.

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- Here are some sample questions you can ask the child.
  - “Can you tell me about three things you learned at school today?”
  - “What’s your favorite subject in school right now?”
  - “Which subject/class do you think is the hardest? What is hard about it?”
  - “Which subject/class do you think is the easiest? What is easy about it?”



## Help the child stay organized.

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- Help the child use an assignment calendar or notebook to keep track of school information, including:
  - Due dates for **homework assignments**,
  - Dates of **quizzes and tests**,
  - Due dates for **major projects** (like a science fair project or book report), and
  - Dates of **special school activities**, like field trips.

## Encourage reading.

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- Read aloud to the child. Or, ask the child to read aloud to you.
- It's important for the child to have access to books or other reading materials that are age-appropriate. (Comic books or magazines are okay.)
- If you don't have any books or reading materials, visit a public library.

Make sure the child gets to school **every day**,  
and is on time **every day**.

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Here are some strategies that will help ensure the child gets to school and is on time every day:

- Set a bedtime for the child.
- Make sure the child gets enough sleep each night (at least 8 hours).
- Set time for the child to wake up and get ready for school each day.
- If you are the caregiver, help the child to eat a healthy breakfast each morning.
- Set a plan in place for getting the child to school each day.



Make sure that the child completes all homework and is prepared for school every day.

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How can you make sure the child completes homework and is prepared for school:

- Check the child's backpack every day after school to see if he/she has any homework assignments .
- Find a spot where the child can sit and do homework without distractions.
- No TV or cell phones allowed during homework time.
- Set a time for the child to do homework every day.

## Ways to support the child's caregiver.

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If you are not the child's caregiver, you can provide support to the caregiver by giving them helpful information you may know about the child's school experiences, such as:

- The child's past school experiences,
- The child's homework/study habits,
- Your thoughts on the child's school-related strengths & needs.

Talk to the social worker about the best way to communicate this information to the child's caregiver, and the best way to discuss school-related routines and concerns with the child's caregiver.

# My Goals:

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What I will do:

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How often I will do this:

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# Resources.

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This PowerPoint, Tip Sheets, Mentoring Modules, and supporting materials can be found at: [www.foster-ed.org](http://www.foster-ed.org).

If you have questions about the materials, please contact: [info@fostered.org](mailto:info@fostered.org).

Other Resources:

- *High Expectations*, written and translated to Spanish by Expect More Arizona, available at [ExpectMoreArizona.org](http://ExpectMoreArizona.org)
- *What Research Says About Parent Involvement in Children's Education*, written by the Michigan Dept. of Education
- *Tips for Parents*, written by the California Parent Information Resource Center, available at [www.calpirc.org](http://www.calpirc.org)