



Educational Champion Training

MODULE 2:

Monitoring and Facilitating Learning

Why Focus on Monitoring and Facilitating Learning?



- 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.



- **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



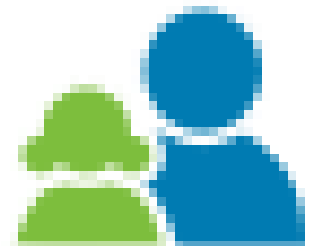
- Use the school's online portal as a tool to **enhance communication** with the child and teacher about his/ her progress in school.
- Use the online portal as a way to **avoid surprises** at the end of the semester or term.
- Use the online portal as a good starting point to talk to the child about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



- 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.



- 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.



- 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**.



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.



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.



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:



What I will do:

How often I will do this:

Resources.



This PowerPoint, Tip Sheets, Mentoring Modules, and supporting materials can be found at: www.foster-ed.org.

If you have questions about the materials, please contact: info@fostered.org.

Other Resources:

- *High Expectations*, written and translated to Spanish by Expect More Arizona, available at 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