

## "Setting the Stage" for Productive Learning

### "Setting the Stage"

The goal in helping our children should always be to teach them to become independent learners and use study skills as a tool to succeed in and out of the classroom.

### "Setting the Stage"

"The end result of all this well-intentioned involvement is that parents wind up taking responsibility for major aspects of their children's learning - whether it's learning how to get along with others, how to choose friends, how to occupy time, how to read, write and do arithmetic and even learning from their mistakes.

### "Setting the Stage"

- Study skills must be learned.
- Each child learns in his or her own unique way.
  - Visual Learners - Learn best by watching, examining and creating a mental image in their brain

### "Setting the Stage"

Today's parents seem convinced that if left up to their own devices, children will make mistakes. Children will make mistakes. That's good, because most truly valuable learning takes place by trial and error."

John Rosemond

### "Setting the Stage"

- Study skills must be learned.
- Each child learns in his or her own unique way.
  - Auditory Learners - Learn best when info is presented to them, enjoy being read to and are verbal problem solvers

## "Setting the Stage"

- Study skills must be learned.
- Each child learns in his or her own unique way.
  - Kinesthetic Learners - Prefer a hands-on approach, are impulsive and become restless during quiet times.

## "Setting the Stage"

- The "Three R's" for Parents
  - Establish a *Routine*
  - Teach *Responsibility*
  - Be a *Role Model*

## "Setting the Stage"

- Study skills must be learned.
- Each child learns in his or her own unique way.
- Homework reinforces skills, teaches responsibility, encourages time management and promotes a feeling of accomplishment and confidence.

## "Setting the Stage"

- The "Three R's" for Parents
  - Establish a *Routine*
    - Have a specific study time
    - Establish a study area equipped with a desk
    - The area should be free of all distractions
    - Have all possible supplies nearby
    - Post a large calendar to chart upcoming tests and projects
    - Make sure your child has a reliable friend to call to clarify assignments - "Homework Buddy"

## "Setting the Stage"

- The "Three R's" for Parents
  - Getting Started with a *Routine*
    - Read over assignments with them
    - Break it down into manageable steps
    - Alternate harder assignments with easier ones
    - Clarify any directions needed
    - Set a time limit
    - Stress they are to remain seated but let them know you will check with them periodically
    - LEAVE

## "Setting the Stage"

- The "Three R's" for Parents
  - Teach *Responsibility*

You should be available to answer questions, encourage them and be concerned with their progress but don't lose sight of the fact that homework belongs to the child

## "Setting the Stage"

- The "Three R's" for Parents
  - Teach *Responsibility*

When parents insist on helping children with their homework, the children start to believe they cannot do the homework on their own or they cannot be trusted to do it right

## "Setting the Stage"

- Over-Involved
  - Hovers
  - Assumes responsibility
  - Encourages dependence
  - Sends negative messages
- Consulting
  - Available
  - Assigns responsibility
  - Encourages independence
  - Sends positive messages

## "Setting the Stage"

- The "Three R's" for Parents
  - Teach *Responsibility*

Allow natural consequences to take place when a child is irresponsible in other areas of their school life

## "Setting the Stage"

- The "Three R's" for Parents
  - Be a *Role Model (cont)*
    - Have realistic expectations and reward the effort as well as the results
    - Don't over-extend your child

## "Setting the Stage"

- The "Three R's" for Parents
  - Be a *Role Model*
    - Make sure your child has other responsibilities besides homework
    - Teach organizational skills
    - Turn off the TV and allow for quiet time centered around family activities
    - Actively engage in conversations about school and listen
    - Model respect for their school and teachers

## "Setting the Stage"

- Tips to Make the Most of Learning Sessions
  - Avoid last minute cramming
  - Over-Learn
  - Make learning sessions varied

## "Setting the Stage"

### ➤ Memory Boosters

- Use acronyms (ex. Roy G. Biv)
- Make up an acrostic (ex. Every good boy does fine)
- Chaining
- Associate a word or fact with a humorous image (ex. She ate and ate at 64 until she couldn't fit through the kitchen door)

## "Setting the Stage"

For the majority of children, success in the classroom depends on the child learning effective study skills and strategies that when practiced over and over will result in efficient study habits.

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### ➤ Memory Boosters (Cont)

- Use the "Five-W's" and "H"
- Make signs or small posters to place in strategic locations around the house
- Location Method: place 3 to 5 pieces of specific information in various rooms of your house
- Let your child be the teacher and present a lesson to you using a visual aid

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Questions?