This guide has practical strategies that work for helping children of all ages who may be struggling with an at-home learning task. Families may find these strategies useful when helping their children complete various reading, math, and/or behavioral tasks at home.

**OVERVIEW**

**TIPS FOR USING THIS GUIDE**

To use this guide, think about your child(ren) and which strategies may help them learn or practice a new task. Keep this guide close by as you help your child(ren) with their learning at home, and explore more resources at the links provided. You also can access this guide, and more examples/tips, on your Amazon Alexa device by saying "Alexa, enable Home Learning."

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**Model**

- Before your child practices a new skill, it is helpful to first show him or her how you would do it. Then, you can do it together before letting your child do it alone ("I show you," "we do it together," then "you do it alone").
- You also can show your child how you think about solving a word problem or how you ask yourself questions when you are reading.
- When helping your child solve a problem or answer a question, it can be helpful to break the task down into smaller steps ("first...next...").
- Children love examples. Try using examples (the right way to do something) and nonexamples (the wrong way to do something) to help show the difference.

**Clear Directions**

- Some children become overwhelmed easily by a lot of verbal or written information at once; giving easy, clear directions (one step at a time) may help your child focus on what he or she needs to do.
- Using a calm, quiet tone of voice may help prevent a struggle in following directions.
- Consider asking your child to repeat your directions in his or her own words, or make eye contact with you as you speak.
- Pointing or using visual clues may help your child understand what you are asking him or her to do.
- Praise your child when he or she has followed directions successfully.

**Support**

- Show your child you care about his or her learning—talk about the learning task before your child begins working.
- Children often feel supported when you stay close by while they are completing tasks.
- Breaking up work (math problems, reading chapters or paragraphs) into small parts may help your child feel more confident about taking on a learning task.
- Children love having choices—let them pick what they want to work on first, last, and so on.
- Watch your child complete a task, and praise correct answers—he or she will love the reinforcement!
- If your child is struggling, provide him or her with a clue to the answer, or provide half the answer and have him or her complete the rest.

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**Learn More**

- [Explicit Instruction: What You Need to Know](#)
- [Self-Regulated Strategy Development (SRSD): Using Learning Strategies to Enhance Student Learning](#)
- [Examples/tips](#) for how to use sample [reading](#) and [math](#) lessons at home
- [Modeling video](#)

**Learn More**

- [10 Tips to Help Your Child Follow Directions](#)
- [Why Some Kids Have Trouble Following Directions](#)
- [Getting My Child to Listen (Without Yelling)](#)
- [Clear directions video](#)

**Learn More**

- [How to Help Your Child Break Up a Writing Assignment Into Chunks](#)
- [9 Steps for Breaking Down Assignments](#)
- [How Can I Support My Child in Reading?](#)
- Giving support: [Video #1](#) and [Video #2](#)

For more information on high-leverage practices, visit [https://highleveragepractices.org/](https://highleveragepractices.org/).
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