

### **Motivation: Building Interest in Schoolwork**

Generally speaking, children who enjoy school and who regularly spend time at home on school-related tasks have better report card grades and standardized test scores. Students show a strong connection between the amount of time spent on homework and study and academic success. Consequently, parents need to motivate children to develop a favorable attitude toward school and the study tasks that enhance learning.

### **Home School Communication**

- Parents need to show a real interest in their child's school and learning experiences.
- TALK about areas of study, interactions with classmates and teachers, and the feelings of success and weakness that your child experiences.
- Visit your child's school and talk with his teachers about his progress and how you can help at home by sharing any information that will help in understanding your child.
- Show support for the teacher and the school as they are usually just as concerned about your child's success as you are.

### **Encouraging Your Child**

Parental encouragement is one of the most important factors in children's success at school. Praising youngsters when they do well shows that you have confidence in their ability. Your confidence is often the motivating factor needed for them to put out that little extra bit of effort.

Your child's motivation will most likely bring success, better grades and end the nightly homework drama in your household. If the child completes the daily assignment sheet, brings home all necessary books and materials, completes written work and studies for tests, and packs the book bag or the next day – THEN REWARD THEM!

(Adapted from the How to Help Children Succeed in School by The Family Forum Library)