

# Helping Your Student With Math Homework

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A goal of homework is for students to figure out problems on their own. Students learn about important math ideas by persevering through challenging problems. If your student is struggling and asks for help, help your child think about how to solve the problem without showing or telling him or her how to solve it.

Here are some things you can say if your student is stuck:

What is the problem asking you to find out?

What do you know that might help you solve it?

What have you thought about so far?

Does this problem remind you of any other problems you've done? How is it the same?

What tools (drawings, equations, models) or strategies have you used in school to solve problems like this?

Another goal of homework is for students to think about whether their answers make sense, to prove accuracy of their answers, and to discover and correct any mistakes on their own. Don't tell them they are wrong or correct their answers – let them figure it out.

Here's what you can say to help your child think about their answers and discover any mistakes he or she may have made.

How did you figure that out?

Does your answer make sense? Why?

Did you double check?

If your student does not understand part of all of the homework and cannot do it independently, please encourage him or her to come in before or after school or during noon hour study hall. I am always here to help!

Let's have a great year!

*Mrs. Stanley*