

Parents Should Arrange Study Areas and Habits

"Aw, homework!" Is this how students really feel? Is it "just natural" for them to greet homework with groans? Or can they be encouraged to make studying a pleasant habit, with satisfying results both now and later?

In these back-to-school days, such questions are getting a lot of attention from educators, parents and students.

One of the best answers they've found lies in the word "habit." For regular, concentrated study is a habit, and one that not only brings rewards in better high school and college grades but will also help students in their future business and professional careers.

HOW TO FORM the study habit? That usually calls for plenty of cooperation from Mom and Dad. Big stumbling blocks to "regular, concentrated" study are revealed in a survey of teen-age study habits by the Purdue University Opinion Panel.

It showed that half of the high schoolers questioned didn't have a definite place for doing homework while the same total reported that they must sometimes study in noisy surroundings.

QUESTIONED about the time element, more than half of the teen-agers said they seldom or never follow a regular time schedule for study.

Mom and Dad can help to solve these problems by:

1. Providing a well-equipped study area.
2. Setting up a definite time for study.

The study area comes first, for a quiet, convenient, pleasant place to study gives the teen-ager an incentive to find the time for study.

For the parents of younger children, there's a third rule:

3. Start early to encourage good study habits.

EVEN the grade schooler will benefit by spending some time in reading, study or hobby activities at home. When the child reaches

high school, regular home study will already be a habit.

With space at a premium in many homes, "where to study" is often the most acute problem, for the study area should be located away from family noises, radio, TV and other possible distractions.

Easiest solution occurs when the student has a room of his own. Study equipment can be set up in the bedroom.

IF FOR ANY reason this arrangement isn't practical, perhaps a study corner can be arranged in the family room or basement game room. The kitchen, too, has possibilities. A planning desk located there for use by mother during the day, would serve the school-agers in the evening.

Another answer might be to set aside a study area in the living room, with privacy provided by the use of room-divider furniture such as bookshelves.

Arranging study equipment comes next on the agenda. Basics are a desk with a roomy surface and a chair high enough for the student to work in comfort.

GOOD LIGHTING is imperative. The study lamp should be high enough to throw a full circle of light on the desk. A bridge lamp or desk lamp with swinging arm are both good choices.

All accessories for study should be near at hand, to avoid the temptation to leave the desk during the study period. Suggested are a good-sized desk blotter, paper and notebooks, and a pencil jar, with pencils and crayons stored points down for safety.



Good-Looking Shoes

Four little indians on the schoolyard wall showing off their good-looking shoes. Left to right: for big brother, a five-eyelet wing tip in deeply grained leather with sturdy supple leather sole; a one-in-two strap for sister in polished red leather with a stitched

tab across the vamp; for little brother, a four-eyelet oxford with sharkskin tips and leather sole; and a round toe junior version of mother's T-strap in smooth brown leather with leather sole set off by white stitching.

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