

## Study Skills

### **SECTION 1 Study Skills Begin in the Classroom!**

Be actively engaged in class:

- **Ask questions**
- Answer questions, take a risk.
- Take good notes
- Try to avoid distractions - select a different seat if necessary
- Write down homework assignments

Taking *GOOD* notes:

- Take clear & accurate notes.
- You don't have to write every word the teacher says, focus on key points:
  - *Dates, times, places, people, formulas, vocabulary words*
  - Notice what the teacher emphasizes:
    - Key phrases: "this is important" "you need to remember" "this will be on the test" are examples
- **For guided notes**- fill in blanks, underline, star, or highlight key points
- Write down questions in the left-hand margin to ask your teacher later.

### **SECTION 2 Homework is a Form of Studying!**

*Do homework effectively and to the best of your ability!*

- *Bring home the necessary tools* for each class to do homework and study. When packing your backpack ask yourself "what items do I need to correctly complete my homework and to study?"
  - planner, books, homework folder, notebooks/binder chromebooks, computer, flashcards, highlighters, etc.
- **Take your time!** Rushing and answering incorrectly does not help you.
- To find the correct answer:
  - Check your notes and textbooks
  - ask your teacher or a classmate to check for accuracy

Are you done with homework for the night?

- Spend some time:
  - Using various study skills (see below) to better understand what you are learning
  - Organizing binders/folders
  - Empty your backpack of unnecessary items

## **SECTION 3- Study Outside of the Classroom - A KEY ingredient for success!**

Build a toolbox of study skills. Some skills work better for specific classes and for certain people. PUT IN THE TIME & EFFORT

- Use teacher given study guides or create your own
  - Write down questions & answers
  - *Read questions and answers outloud*, don't just think of the answer in your head
- *Have someone quiz you*
  - Anyone- parent, friend, classmate, sibling
    - They can come up with questions out of your notebook, textbook, a study guide or flashcards
- Use or Create Memory Aid
  - Mnemonic devices
    - Examples:
      - Roy G. Biv (colors of the rainbow)
      - CUBES (CIRCLE the number and unit, UNDERLINE the question, BOX the word that tells the operation, ELIMINATE what you don't need, SOLVE the Math and answer the question.
  - Make rhymes, rhythms, songs or dances
- **Handwritten Flashcards**
  - Write questions (or vocabulary words) on one side and the answer on the other
  - Quiz yourself or have someone else quiz you
- Draw a diagram
- Quizlet.com
  - Online resource l using flashcards, games, and other learning tools.
- Use Practice Questions to practice a concept and apply what you know in different ways
  - Math sample questions (review the first couple with the teacher to make sure you are practicing correctly).
  - Turn review notes or facts into questions
  - Practice questions from can come from textbooks, teachers, corrected homework assignments or quizzes
- Reread chapters from the book
  - Outline the chapter as you read, *identify main points and write in your own words (reword), key vocab, or draw a diagram*
- Spaced studying- it is better to study a little bit at a time over the course of a few days rather than cramming the night before
- Create a **study group or study buddy**
  - Get together with a group for classmates to study before a test.

### **Additional Helpful Study Hints:**

- Create a study schedule
  - Carve out time at home that is dedicated to studying, early in the evening with freetime as a reward
- Find time in your day for **extra help** from teachers
  - 9th period, pre-homeroom study hall, After School Study Hall, ask them questions through email
- Bring study material to work on when you know there will be a wait
  - Like doctors appointments
- Spend time on your *harder subjects first* when you are most alert and focused

## **SECTION 4- Ideas for Home**

### **For Students:**

- Have a place to study & do homework
  - use a table or another place so you have enough room to spread out
  - good lighting
  - sturdy chair
  - quiet space with minimal distraction
- Remove distractions like cell phones
- Parents can help to develop a system to keep track of important documents. - finding an method and sticking to it
  - Color coding
  - Use binders and dividers, etc.

### **For Parents:**

Check a students planner at home

- Follow through at home helps to build a habit of writing down daily assignments and checking it off when it is completed
- Ask more than one question rather than “Do you have homework?”, “did you do your homework?”, or “Do you have anything to study for?”
  - What information do you need to do this assignment?
  - Where are you going to look for it?
  - How did you make sure that your homework was done correctly?
  - Where do you think you should begin?
  - What do you need to do next?
  - Can you describe how you’re going to solve this problem?
  - How did you solve this problem?
  - What did you try that didn’t work?
  - Tell me more about this part?
  - Which class are you having hardest time understanding