

ANOKA-HENNEPIN SCHOOLS

Parenting Education and Family Engagement

Working together to help students be successful in school.

Motivating your child during distance learning

It can be difficult to get your child to focus and do schoolwork on a computer. Here are some tips to motivate your child during distance learning.

Praise the effort.

- Take notice and make positive comments about how your child persevered through or is making progress on a tough assignment. Make sure to give specific praise, not just “good job”. For example, “I see you are trying all the strategies to solve that math problem and you’re not giving up. Keep it up!”

Give incentives.

- Some kids need incentives or rewards. Set a goal and when your child accomplishes that goal, take a brain break, play a board game or go outside for 10 minutes. For a bigger goal, plan a virtual dance party with family and friends or let your child pick a movie for family movie night.

Use visual timers.

- A visual timer will help your child know how much time is left and stay on task.

Get creative and mix it up.

- If your child has to read a story, try reading the story in different voices to change things up. This is a good way to practice using expression while reading also! If your child has to create a picture, try using different media forms like play dough, colored pencils or paint. When working on a math activity, use different manipulatives from around the house such as: toy cars, silverware, art supplies, blocks or Legos.

Display your child’s work.

- This is one way to show your child that you’re proud of him/her. It also helps instill a love of learning.

Don’t forget to celebrate the little victories.

- This is especially important on those hard days. Remember, tomorrow is a new day.

Source: Common Sense Media Retrieved from www.common sense media.org/blog/keeping-kids-motivated-for-online-learning.

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✉ nichol.michels@ahschools.us ☎ 763-204-5667
Pre-K to Grade Three Parent Educator

EARLY CHILDHOOD FAMILY EDUCATION
ECFE
ANOKA-HENNEPIN SCHOOLS
PRESCHOOL

