

HANDWRITING & EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONING SKILLS

TIPS TO HELP KIDS IMPROVE EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONING SKILLS TO IMPROVE HANDWRITING AND HOMEWORK

How to help kids improve executive functioning skills to improve handwriting and homework

Break down writing tasks. Separate an assignment into smaller parts.

Make a plan. Visual cues are key. Use a highlighter and numbers to create a "to-do" list.

Make short one step tasks and determine how long each should last.

Consistency. Complete written work and homework in a specific place.

Organized work space. Try these tips for organized homework.

Materials in place. Limit the options for pencils/erasers.

Use a timer to work on small steps at a time.

Provide guidelines for written work.

Mark off each task as it is completed.

Behavioral chart for homework completion.

Reward system with actionable rewards: Instead of a toy or sticker, a child can choose to earn time to stay up 15 minutes later on Friday, choose the family's dessert for one day, or pick what to watch for family movie night.

Dictation: Child dictates what he wants to write and parent/teacher/aide/another student completes the writing portion.

Try typing vs. written work.

Visual checklist for mechanics: Capitalization, punctuation, complete sentences, grammar, spelling, line awareness, spacing, letter formation.