

Lesson 3: Where Should I Do My Homework?

Learning Target: Students will be able to identify the characteristics of the ideal location to complete homework and create a checklist to help them prepare a homework zone at home.

Materials/Preparation:

- Write the following “homework locations” on the board:
 - in front of the television
 - in bed
 - at the kitchen table
 - in the car or bus
 - outside
 - at a desk in my bedroom
 - on the floor
 - at the library
 - in the cafeteria
- Add to the “Homework Habits” Chart: Create the perfect place to do your homework everyday.

Steps:

1. Connection to previous lesson: “In our last session we looked at the ideal time to complete homework. Today we’ll think about the ideal location for homework.”
2. Students work in small groups or pairs to reorder the list of homework locations on the board from best location to worst location (ask them to write the locations down in order in their notebooks).
3. Ask students to explain how they decided which locations were the worst and best. (If necessary, prompt them to think about noise level, distractions, comfort, supplies, etc.)
4. As a class, create a list of requirements for the ideal homework location. Write the list on chart paper as students write it in their journals. (Some items might be personal preferences, so you can explain that students could customize those choices on their own checklists). It might be helpful to use the following categories to organize the list: 1. Location (where in house); 2. Furniture (Desk, chair, shelves/storage); 3. Supplies
5. Ask students to use the list to evaluate where they typically do their homework. Prompt them to write down what they need to change (for some students this may involve finding a new location). Emphasize that they want to select one location so that they can store supplies there and keep all of their work together to make it easier to find. (An exception can be made for independent reading time, but the location for that should be considered carefully as well.)
6. Students share with a partner how they are going to improve their homework location (prompt them to break it down into steps). Their “homework” for this week is to prepare this homework location and begin using it. You might want to ask students to photograph their homework spaces or create a diagram of it for accountability.