

June, 2025

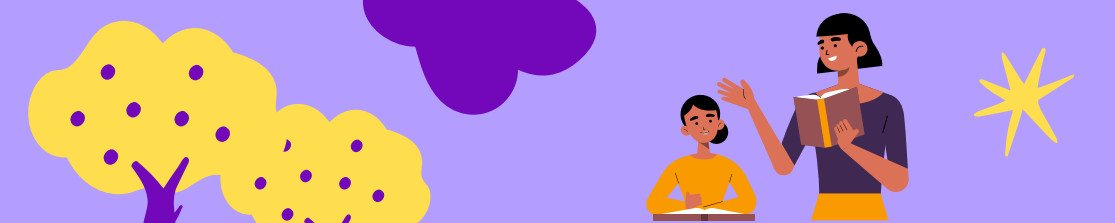


Supporting Learning at Home



A gentle guide to helping families build positive learning habits across all ages and nurturing happy, confident and independent learners.





At Blue Delta School...

We understand that learning doesn't stop at the school gate. Every home is different, and so are our learners.

Whether your child is just learning to speak, beginning to decode phonics, or confidently reading chapter books, your encouragement makes all the difference.

This guide offers practical, age-appropriate ways to support learning at home—no matter your space, resources, or schedule.

"Your home, your sanctuary, your safe space, can be a powerful extension of your child's classroom"



Quick Reference Checklist

Helpful items for supporting take-home activities and learning at home.



Having a few simple, everyday materials at home can make a big difference in how children engage with their tasks. Here's a handy checklist of useful things to keep nearby:

Creative Materials

Scrap paper for drawing or scribbling

Old magazines or newspapers for cutting and sorting

Recycled materials (bottle caps, buttons, etc.)

Playdough or modelling clay (store-bought or homemade)

Basic Supplies

Pencils

Pens

Sharpeners

Erasers

Crayons

Colouring pencils

Glue stick

Child-safe scissors

Ruler

(Basic supplies are also required to be brought to school for elementary students)

Learning Support

A small, quiet space or corner or surface for homework

A collection of age-appropriate books

Flashcards, puzzles, or matching games

A simple model alphabet and numbers or phonics board

Helpful Habits

Set homework time daily (or as assigned)

Read together for 20 minutes every day

Let children try first-help, don't hurry

Praise effort, not perfection

Paper & Writing Materials

Plain paper or drawing book or both

Exercise books or notebooks

Cardboard (for craft or cut-and-paste work)

We know that not every family has access to all of these items right away—and that's okay.

Please use what you have, make do with creativity, and reach out if you need help sourcing basic materials. We're always happy to work with you to support your child's learning journey.





Why Homework Matters

Homework is not just about finishing a task—it's about building habits that last a lifetime...

... Even for very young children, "homework" may mean colouring, tracing, sorting, or talking about their day. All of it counts.



Responsibility

Completing tasks builds a sense of ownership.

Practice

Reinforces what's taught in class.

Independence

Encourages thinking and problem-solving without fear or anxiety.

Confidence

Empowers learners to feel capable and take pride in their progress—both in school and at home.



0–2 Years: Early Learning for Nonverbal and Pre-Verbal Children



WHAT YOU CAN DO:

Talk often

Name objects, colours, animals, sizes, shapes and actions (“Look, a red ball! / Can you see the big round ball?”)

Get Noisy!... On Purpose!

Sing nursery rhymes, count out loud, and read picture books together. Show and name items in take-home activity packs. Read homework instructions out loud.

Model

Encourage independent scribbling with crayons or jumbo pencils. Do yours and show them.

Make Room for Curiosity

Let them explore textures, sounds, shapes, and movement

Encourage Verbal Expression

Celebrate new mumbled words, attempts, pointing, babbling, eye contact, or gestures as early communication.

Emergent Readers: Early Phonics Learners, Non-Readers and Semi-confident Readers (Nursery, Reception)



This group includes children who cannot yet read independently but are beginning to develop stronger comprehension skills, learn letter sounds, blending, or simple sight words, identify shapes and numbers, and apply a few numerical skills here and there. They often understand tasks when explained, but need adult help to read and process instructions.

How to Help:

Read homework instructions aloud slowly and clearly

Break tasks into small steps and guide them gently

Use verbal prompts ("What sound does this start with?")

Let them colour, circle, or point rather than write if needed

Offer praise for effort, not just correctness

Tip:

Use everyday objects for learning—spoons for counting, socks for sorting, books for pointing and identifying pictures or letters.

Reception – Year One Level Readers: Early Independent Readers



Your Role:

Sit beside them while they read instructions.

Let them read aloud and help only when asked.

Guide them to correct mistaken or mispronounced words and only offer answers after efforts have been made.

Give time for thinking—don't rush or answer for them

Encourage neatness and effort with gentle praise

Provide basic tools: pencils, crayons, paper, eraser.

Let Them Lead:

Avoid fixing every error. Ask, "Does that make sense?" and let them try again.

These learners are starting to read simple words and sentences on their own. They may still rely on sounding out, need reminders to focus, and require a lot of patience as they build independence.

Independent Readers – Elementary Learners (Years 1–6)



These children can read and write with increasing confidence. Homework supports practice, responsibility, and deeper learning. But they still need emotional support and the right tools.

What Works:

Create a quiet, tidy space with pencils, books, and materials

Let them attempt homework without jumping in too quickly

Offer help only when they ask or are truly stuck

Teach time management by setting regular homework hours

Always check on work done

Ask open-ended, supportive questions (“What was the trickiest part today?”)

Focus on Independence:

Praise their thinking process, not just right answers. Encourage self-checking.

For Families with Limited Space or Supplies

Not every home has a desk, bookshelves, or craft bins—and that's okay.

You can still support learning by:

Using a tray, mat, bed (if hard enough), floor (if clean and safe enough) or corner of a table as a learning spot.

Reusing notebooks, paper from old books, or cardboard for extra writing needs.

Using found items—stones, lids, bottle tops—for sorting or counting.

Letting them work near you during chores and chatting about the task.

Remember:

What matters most is time, attention, effort, talk, and love—not fancy materials.



Notes on Patience & Emotional Safety



Homework time can be frustrating, especially when children are tired or distracted. But every response from us teaches them how to approach challenges.

Please Avoid:

Yelling, insults, sarcasm or impatient tones

Shaming, hitting, or forcing a child to continue while nervous, upset, tense or scared

Doing the work for them out of frustration

Instead:

Take breaks when needed

Celebrate even small attempts

Speak calmly and kindly—even when correcting

Encourage effort and potential



Your calm presence is more powerful than the homework itself.
When children feel safe, they take risks and grow.



The Power of Daily Reading 20 Minutes That Make a Difference

Beyond homework, one of the most powerful ways to support your child's learning is to read with them every day. Just 20 minutes of reading together—or listening to a story—builds skills that last a lifetime.



Why It Matters:

Boosts vocabulary and comprehension

Builds attention span and listening skills

Strengthens imagination, empathy, and curiosity

Improves spelling, writing, and confidence in class

Fosters deep connection and bonding between parent and child

What You Can Do:

Read aloud to babies, toddlers, and non-readers

Let early readers read to you—even if they struggle or guess

Take turns reading pages with older children

Talk about the story, pictures, characters, and new words

Choose books in any language you speak at home—it all counts!



Creating a Home Library

You don't need a full bookshelf or designated space. A small basket, box, or shelf with 10–20 age-appropriate books that rotate regularly can become a magical reading space.

Ask teachers, neighbors, or local organisations about affordable, pre-loved, free or shared book resources. Re-reading the same beloved books is just as powerful as new ones.

20 is Plenty!

Just 20 minutes a day...

Improves critical thinking skills, understanding and confidence with communication and social skills.

Expose readers to 1.8 million words a year! – building a strong broad vocabulary.

Cover up to over 120 hours of reading each year! That's a head start that no worksheet can replace. So start today!



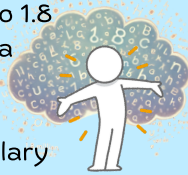
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Gain improved
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Gain
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Get to explore
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Will have
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stress levels



Have a
thriving,
creative
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Develop
empathy



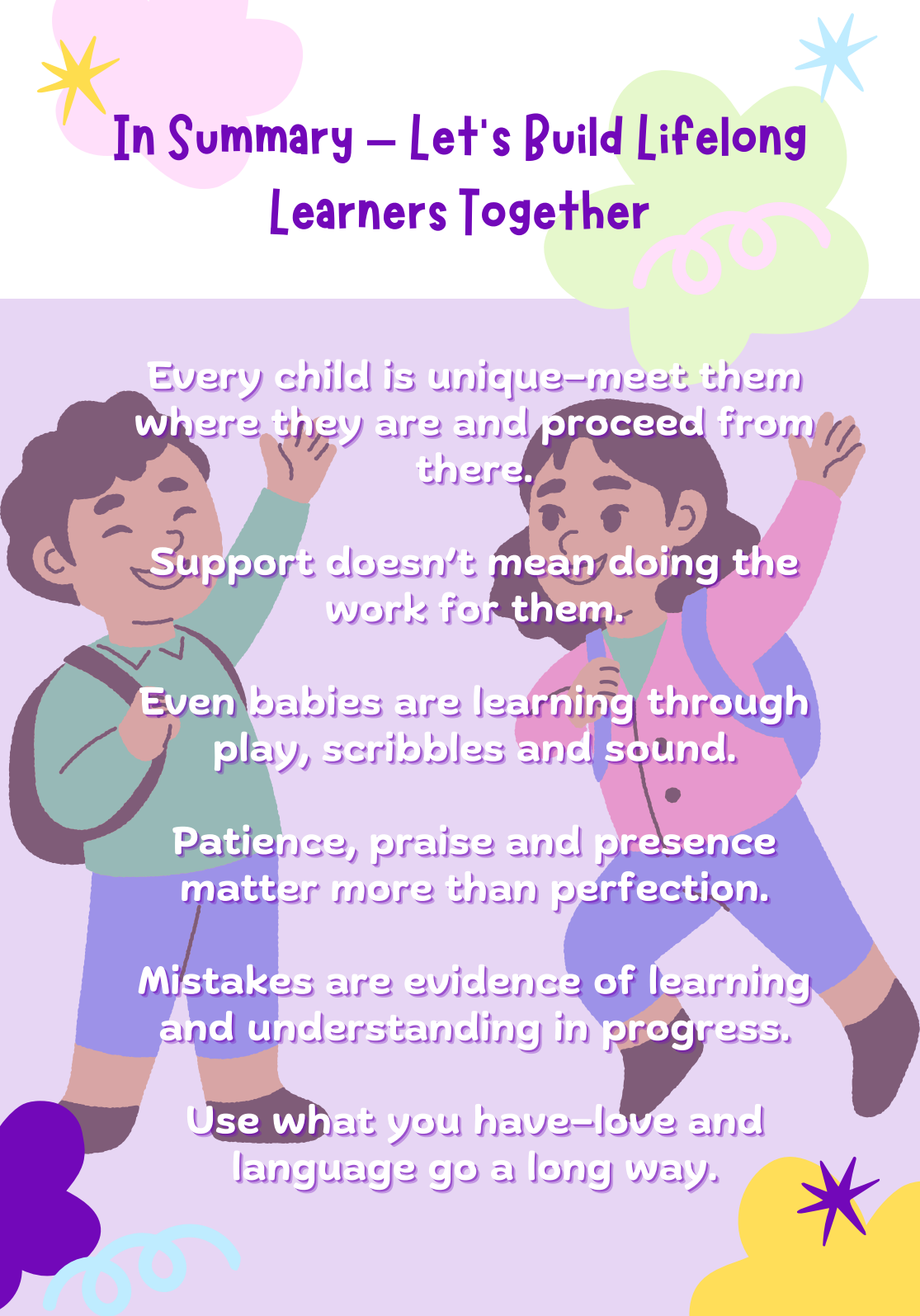
**Whether it's comics, textbooks,
fairy tales or fact books—it all
counts. Making reading a daily
habit creates a quiet space for
children to think,
learn, and grow.
20 minutes today
could shape a
lifetime tomorrow.**



Get better
test results!

100%





In Summary – Let's Build Lifelong Learners Together

Every child is unique—meet them where they are and proceed from there.

Support doesn't mean doing the work for them.

Even babies are learning through play, scribbles and sound.

Patience, praise and presence matter more than perfection.

Mistakes are evidence of learning and understanding in progress.

Use what you have—love and language go a long way.