



## **Managing Homework:** Learning for Life

Homework is a source of stress for many children and families – from lost papers to math that goes over even the parents' head to last-minute scrambles to meet a deadline. But homework also has enormous benefits, not only in helping children master content but in promoting organizational skills and a work ethic that have lifelong value. So, what is the proper role for parents in helping with homework? And how can parents use homework as an opportunity to help their children build lifelong skills?

### **I. The role of parents**

- Parents should NOT be expected to play a formal teaching role in homework; homework should be a time to practice and integrate skills that have been taught at school
- Parents SHOULD play a significant role in creating the right environment and helping children develop the organizational skills to manage homework effectively

### **II. Tasks for parents – THE FOUR Cs**

- Create a system for managing both the paper and the time
- Coach, as necessary, but don't do the work
- Communicate regularly with teachers
- Celebrate effort and success!