



# How to Help your Child while Learning Virtually

Knowing how to help your child enough that they can access virtual learning while still giving them the independence they need is tough. We are all learning together but below are some ideas to help you navigate your role in this new learning environment.

## Tech Help vs. Tech Teaching

| Tech Help   | Tech Teaching  |
|---|--|
| Log in for your child                               | Post the log in code in their work space, have them practice logging in with you there to support until they can do it on their own. Be available in case they have troubles but don't do it for them.   |
| Accessing a link/assignment the teacher has posted. | Direct them where to click, have them do the clicking. Practice going through the steps a few times with them doing the clicking and then let them do it on their own without telling them the steps.  |
| Type an assignment for your child.                  | Have your student spend time with Typing Agent and practice writing stories in a google doc daily. When they are completing a virtual assignment, be patient. Let them do the typing even if it takes them a while to complete the assignment. |
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## You Doing The Learning vs. Supporting Your Child Learning

| You Learning   | Supporting Your Child Learning   |
|--|--|
| Giving your child the answer because they seem frustrated. | Suggest your child take a break and then try again. Ask questions to get your child thinking about what they already know that will help them find the answer. Let them make mistakes, it's how we learn!  |
| Telling your child the answer they put is incorrect.       | Ask your child to talk about an incorrect answer they gave. Many times when someone explains their thinking, they correct their own mistakes. If not, you can see where they may have gotten confused.   |
| Spelling a word for them when they ask.                    | Encourage your child to think about the sounds they hear and write the connecting letters. Ask them if they hear other words inside that word that they know how to spell. (For example if they need to spell sand, can they spell and, then just add the "s" sound at the beginning.) |
| Answering a basic fact equation for them.                  | Ask them to think about a fact they know that is close. (If they ask $7 + 8$ , do they know the double of 7? They can just add one more.) Give them a tool like counters or a number line.   |

**\*\*We can add more topics/tables, these are just what I could think of off the top of my head.**

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# Virtual Classroom Etiquette

Your child's classroom is now in your home. Remember that when your child unmutes their microphone to share during their synchronous learning, their whole class and their teacher can hear what's going on at home. You wouldn't visit your child's classroom and talk loudly on your cell phone while the teacher is teaching. The same goes for your child's learning space at home. You want to minimize distractions in their learning area. We know it's not always possible to have a completely calm and quiet environment when everyone is home, working and learning virtually. Below are some suggestions to help make your child's learning environment a place where they can easily focus.

- **Have your child sit in a low traffic/distraction area.** If possible, have your child sit at a desk or table that is not in a place where everyone gathers or has to walk through. Try to have their area be free of toys and games.
- **Take phone calls in another room.**
- **Try to avoid shouting and arguing around your child.**
- **Keep sibling distractions to a minimum.** We realize everyone is sharing a space and it may not be possible to have your child in a room by themselves. Try to work with siblings to understand they will need to play/chat later. Maybe have a "Quiet Time" sign that your child can put up when they are in a Google Meet.
- **Keep music to a reasonable volume.** A little background music can help some people concentrate or feel more comfortable. When the volume is too high though it becomes distracting.
- **Remember we can see you!** When you walk by your child, if their camera is on, we can see you.

**\*\*Feel free to add to this/leave a comment with feedback.**