

6 Tips for Success: *Watch this quick video*

<https://www.commonsemmedia.org/videos/6-tips-for-keeping-kids-motivated-for-online-learning>

1. Establish Structure & Routine
2. Praise Effort
3. Break up the Day
4. Check in Regularly
5. Be Willing to Experiment
6. Adjust Expectations

Learning Space:

- Check out a desk- contact your school division to see if this is an option
- CHIP (Children's Health Investment Program) has desks. Call 757-543-9100 to inquire
- Desk options: 6-foot table, two sets of cinder blocks stacked with plank of wood across the top (see photo below)
- [Lap Trays](#)- \$4
- Dollar Store- tri-fold project boards as privacy shield (see photo below)
- Use trays and folders for work: "Needs Completing" and "Finished work"
- Consider the following to increase comfort for smaller children while working:
 - Pillows behind the back for small child at an adult table
 - Boxes under their feet so their feet don't dangle
 - Booster seat from the car to put them up higher at an adult table and chair set
 - Books or box to lift laptop up closer to eye level
- Create a vision board with things to look forward- Set daily/weekly goals

Helpful Tips for Staying Organized:

- Keep a list with teacher's emails and contact phone numbers
- Keep school office number handy
- Keep a list of websites, usernames and passwords (index cards with a binder ring is one idea)
- Strive for positive dialogue when you are communicating with your child's teacher (team mentality)
- Learn how to create "favorites" for required websites- then teach your child how to easily find these links in the favorite menu bar

- Build in “brain breaks” where you and your student get away from the screen and release pent up energy
- Consider a reward system for completing tasks, i.e. 5 minutes of playing ball when you finish X task
- Allow older siblings/children to help younger children to promote a sense of leadership and comradery

Online Resources for Problem Solving and Sharing ideas:

- [Grow with Google](#)- Videos & Tutorials on how to use Google Classroom
- [Helpful links: Digital Learning Initiative](#), Portsmouth Public Schools – Helpful tutorials and videos on using Chromebooks
- [Cox.com/C2C](#) (Connect 2 Compete)- Affordable internet connection
- Ask for help on [www.Nextdoor.com](#)
- [Commonsense Media: Family & Teacher Center](#)- Tips and Resources for Distance Learning
- [Multitask with windows & tabs-Chromebook Help](#)
- Reach out to Civic Leagues: supply drives, desk etc.
- Reach out to school counselor for assistance
- Grab-n-go meals- Learn times of distribution in your neighborhood
- Consider local churches for support
- Facebook pages and other social media-Follow **757Virtual Learning**
- Pintrest and Tik Tok also have creative solutions

Learning Environments Outside of the home:

- [Boys & Girls Club](#)- E-Learning
- [YMCA- E-Learning Academy](#)
- Consider creating a POD (Small cluster of children learning together in shared space with adult academic support)

Helpful Tips for Children with Special Needs:

- Post the daily schedule so they know exactly what to expect (for non-readers, take a photo of your child engaged in each subject, print and paste in order of activity for a visual reminder of what comes next)
- Use a timer or find a timer app online
- Become familiar with what skill your student is learning and advocate if the skill needs reinforcing

- Ask your local library about tutoring options and online book access
- Make sure face to face socialization is available for your child (with safety precautions in place such as mask wearing)
 - If face to face is not an option- Google Game Extension Apps allows children to play games together

Homemade Desk Ides:

Cinder Block desk:



Trifold Privacy Shield:

