

## **Directions for Importing Newsletter Clippings**

### **SELF DIRECTED LEARNING Parent Toolkit for Grades K-1 and Grades 2-4**

**15 newsletter clips are included in this document:**

- **Combined K-4 clip appears on page 2**
- **K-1 clippings appear on pages 3 – 4**
- **Grades 2-4 clippings appear on pages 5 – 9.**

**Each clipping has two parts: a PNG graphic for use in MS Office programs AND a text box containing the content.**

**Copy and paste each part separately from this document into your newsletter document. The layout for the PNG picture should be “behind text” and the layout for the text box should be “in front of text”. Both can be resized as needed.**

## CLIP 1 K-4



### FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES K-4

Children become self-directed learners by actively participating in the learning process and taking responsibility for their learning.

In order for students to learn, they must be actively engaged in the learning process.

When this occurs, children become

- imaginative
- open-minded
- confident
- curious
- and independent.

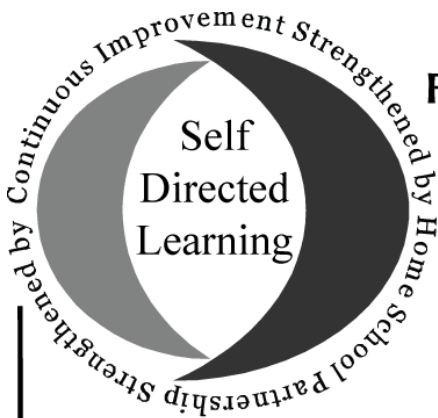
## CLIP 1 K-1



### FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES K-1

The way you help your child in the early school years can affect his/her sense of competence and motivation in the later grades. It is instinctive for parents to notice that a child is doing something wrong, tell him, show him how to do it right, and then stand or sit there to make sure he does it right. Actually, these are the steps for developing learned helplessness. In order for your child to learn he/she must do the work – not you. It's normal and okay for new learning to be imperfect.

## CLIP 2 K-1



### FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES K-1


In order for students to learn, they must be actively engaged in the learning process. When this occurs, children become imaginative, open-minded, confident, curious and independent.

#### **Some ways to help a child grow into a self-directed learner:**

*At home,*

- Provide a comfortable setting and the materials they need to complete their daily assignments. Give them a work area free of distractions that is well-lit and equipped with pencils and erasers.
- Help your child understand directions by reading the directions aloud and asking them to explain to you what needs to be done.
- Encourage your child's efforts to explore his world. Listen carefully to his/her discoveries and natural curiosities. Ask questions to help them make connections between what they just discovered and what they already know.


## Mini Clips for Clip 2 K-1



FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES K-1

### Growing a Self Directed Learner


Provide a comfortable setting and the materials they need to complete their daily assignments. Give them a work area free of distractions that is well-lit and equipped with pencils and erasers.



FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES K-1

### Growing a Self Directed Learner

Help your child understand directions by reading the directions aloud and asking them to explain to you what needs to be done.



FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES K-1

### Growing a Self Directed Learner

Encourage your child's efforts to explore his world. Listen carefully to his/her discoveries and natural curiosities. Ask questions to help them make connections between what they just discovered to what they already know.

## CLIP 1 2-4



### FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES 2-4

The way you help your child in school can affect his/her sense of competence and motivation in the later grades. It is instinctive for parents to want to sit with your child and help him/her do homework. You notice what he is doing wrong, tell him, show him how to do it right, and then stand or sit there to make sure he does it correctly. What you are actually teaching him is that he is helpless, that if he wants attention he should get things wrong. Children who have this support at home often sit and wait in school for the teacher to come and get them started. They often sit with their hands raised and wait for the teacher. When the teacher finally arrives, they say, "I don't understand what to do." They become more and more passive about learning because they believe that they just need to wait to be told what to do.

## CLIP 2 2-4



FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES 2-4

### Helping Your Child Become Self Directed

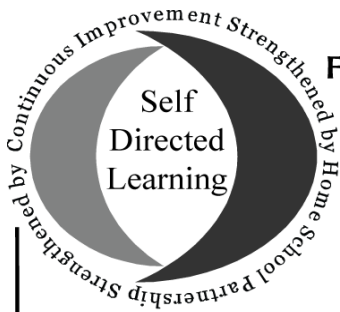
#### Part One

There are three things that you can do to help your child become motivated and learn to feel competent. PRAISE, PROMPT, and LEAVE.

#### PRAISE

To start with, you are going to change the way you approach what your child is doing. Find something specific that he/she is doing right and make a positive comment such as, "Good, you're getting ready to do your homework." or "I see you're looking up your assignments." Every time you approach your child to see how he is doing, you are going to START WITH A POSITIVE COMMENT. It is usually about something that he has done right so far.

## CLIP 3 2-4



FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES 2-4

### Helping Your Child Become Self Directed

#### Part Two

There are three things that you can do to help your child become motivated and learn to feel competent. PRAISE, PROMPT, and LEAVE.

#### PROMPT

If your child is doing, fine, then just say, "Keep up the good work!" If you have noticed something that needs support or your child appears stuck, give a brief, clear prompt of the next step to take. It should be brief and not start with the words "But," "However," or "Instead of." Begin with, "The next thing to do is..." Your prompt should be short and sweet – not a long, drawn-out explanation that will only confuse him.

## CLIP 4 2-4



FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES 2-4

### Helping Your Child Become Self Directed

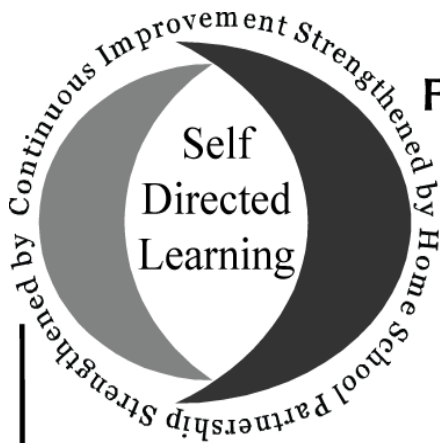
Part Three

There are three things that you can do to help your child become motivated and learn to feel competent. PRAISE, PROMPT, and LEAVE.

#### LEAVE

If you hang around, you are communicating to your child that you believe that he will need more help. This leads him to believe he can't do it without you. So you are going to smile, turn, and leave. This is a good time to take out the trash or load the dishwasher or check an e-mail or fix a cup of tea.

## CLIP 5 2-4



### FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES 2-4

In order for students to learn, they must be actively engaged in the learning process. When this occurs, children become imaginative, open-minded, confident, curious and independent.

#### Some ways to help a child grow into a self-directed learner:

- Expect your child to come home each day with a list of assignments.
- Provide a comfortable setting and the materials they need for daily assignments. Give them a work area free of distractions that is well lit and equipped with pencils and erasers.
- Give them help in understanding directions when they need it. Have them read the directions aloud and explain back to you what needs to be done.
- Encourage your child's efforts to explore his world. Listen carefully to their discoveries and natural curiosities. Help them make connections between what they just discovered to what they already know.

## Mini Clips for Clip 5 2-4



FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES 2-4

### Growing a Self Directed Learner

Expect your child to come home each day with a list of assignments.



## Mini Clips for Clip 5 2-4



FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES 2-4

### Growing a Self Directed Learner

Provide a comfortable setting and the materials they need for daily assignments. Give them a work area free of distractions that is well lit and equipped with pencils and erasers.



FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES 2-4

### Growing a Self Directed Learner

Give them help in understanding directions when they need it. Have them read the directions aloud and explain back to you what needs to be done.



FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES 2-4

### Growing a Self Directed Learner

Encourage your child's efforts to explore his world. Listen carefully to their discoveries and natural curiosities. Help them make connections between what they just discovered to what they already know.