

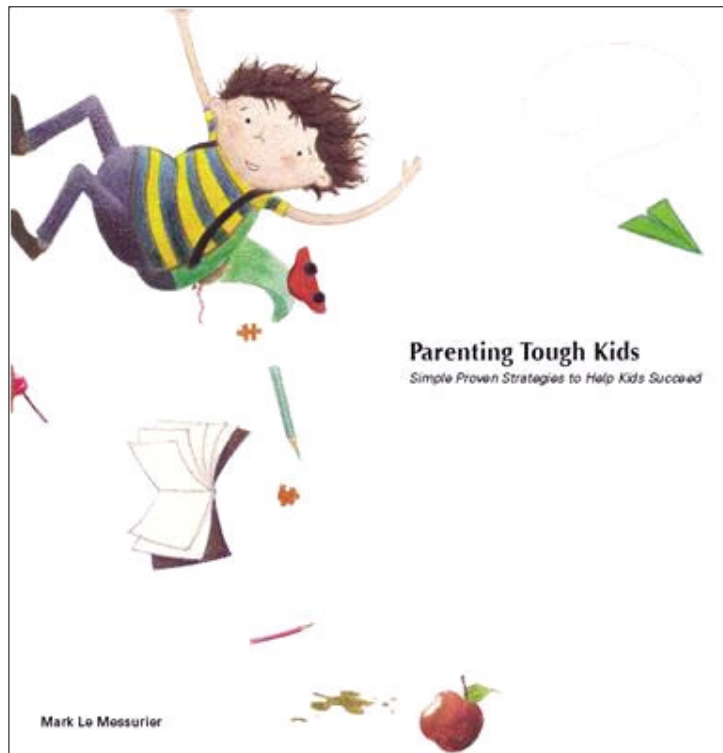
Setting Children up for SUCCESS series

HANDOUT: WORKSHOP 9, HOMEWORK PROBLEMS? THERE ARE SOLUTIONS!

This workshop presents a way to ease the tension that so often surrounds homework. What is presented is down-to-earth advice because, in the end, if we fail to manage homework resourcefully we should not be surprised when our children avoid and become expert at sabotaging it.

Based on Chapter 6 from Mark's latest book –

Parenting Tough Kids: Simple Proven Strategies for Success



At the heart of Mark's internationally popular book – now sold in 5 countries – is a healthy collection of winning ways to bring about helpful organisational and behavioural changes for all children, especially those who 'do it tough'; who learn differently, react differently and think they can't. Filled with easy to read case studies, and real ideas useful to every mum and dad this refreshing approach keeps the focus on building improved structures and relationships, rather than becoming stuck and seeing a son or a daughter as 'the problem child'.

Every mother and father needs to know how to steer their child towards effective ways to:

- improve memory and organisation
- deal with anger
- build better before school and after school routines
- get homework and chores done more easily
- keep to a bedtime, stay in bed and get to sleep
- create friendships and deal with school bullies
- build their emotional resilience

Parenting Tough Kids delivers simple proven strategies to improve the behaviour, organisation, learning, friendship & emotion of all children.

Homework session, overview

What students say about homework

What educators say about homework

What parents say about homework

'The Homework Grid' - how sparkling is this initiative?

A HOMEWORK SOLUTION

Homework basics – for students, for teachers and for parents

What stops children from doing homework?

Pulling new routines together

Have you thought about an electronic free time

Designing a homework 'contract'

Teaching a few tricks to help self-regulation: try self-bargaining

How to enlist the teacher's support

What to do when your child refuses to do homework

What to do when your child does their homework (some vital techniques)

Why it is best to say, 'I'm available or unavailable?'

On the surface homework seems such a simple idea.

Yet, the reality for a number of students, especially those with learning difficulties, concentration troubles, mood problems or chaotic home lives is that regular, meaningful homework practice can be very tricky to achieve.

Over the past forty years or so, many of the attitudes surrounding homework have changed very little. Attitudes followed the ritual of teachers knowing best and setting homework exercises, often for the sake of setting exercises, for students to complete at home. Educators and parents are now seriously questioning the merits of traditional homework in contemporary society. There is a broadening view that its traditional character no longer meets the present needs of our students adequately.

Attempts now abound to improve its character and homework is now finally under the closest of scrutiny. The spark has been ignited and there is no turning back.

About Mark

Mark is a teacher, author and conference presenter. He regularly presents at workshops and conferences for public and independent schools, parents and interested groups throughout Australia and overseas. Mark works in private practice at FULLARTON HOUSE Adelaide, South Australia providing mentoring, educational advice, academic remediation and social skills training for children and teens.

FULLARTON HOUSE is a multidisciplinary group of professionals who support young individuals who are learning to cope with ADHD, learning difficulties, autism spectrum disorders (Asperger syndrome), giftedness, auditory processing disorder, depression, mood disorder and so on.

In 2006 Mark co-authored **STOP & THINK Friendship**. This is a social skills resource - workbook and film - published by ACER for primary-aged students and young adolescents. In 2004 Mark wrote **Cognitive Behavioural Training: A How-to Guide for Successful Behaviour**. It was written for teachers, school support personnel, counsellors, psychologists and health professionals and is distributed throughout Australia, New Zealand the United States, the United Kingdom, Ireland and Singapore. This best selling book addresses common problems that face many students: organisation, remembering, perseverance, self-awareness, motivation and emotional resilience. **Parenting Tough Kids** is Mark's latest book. Within the first nine months of release 6,000 copies were sold. It is now into its third reprint. **Parenting Tough Kids** is available from leading Australian bookstores (ISBN: 9780975231210).

To preview or purchase **Parenting Tough Kids** or **Cognitive Behavioural Training: A How-to Guide for Successful Behaviour** go on-line to www.marklemessurier.com.au

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