



DIGITAL LEARNING



Engagement Tips for Students

Workspaces

- If rooms are shared with other children/adults, use science project display boards (which can be found at Dollar Tree) to separate workspaces.
- Provide a dedicated work space away from other activity.
- Provide space to spread out.
- Ensure there is plenty of light.
- Create a quiet space, using headphones if needed to minimize outside distractions.
- Make sure there is a comfortable chair available.
- Use a squishy pad for under the feet.
- Use toys or other items to help concentrate (fidget spinners, squishy balls, putty, pencil spinners, etc.).
- Place all school items in a box or bin near their desk for easy access.
- Use a balance ball, or other alternative seating.
- Have two set-ups/workspaces to use throughout the day - one more creative area for the creative subjects.

Organization/Schedule

- Morning Google forms can be used to have students 'check in' each day. Ask a silly question, a serious reflection, feelings check, math problem of the day, etc.
- Have the schedule printed out and posted next to the computer.
- Have students wear a watch to make sure they follow the school schedule. For younger kids, a timer may also help.
- Do homework right after school ends, if that works for your family. Other families note that taking an outside break between school and homework is helpful.
- Have scheduled homework time and outside time after school.
- Make sure the student is taking frequent breaks.
- Help the student create summaries of subjects they are struggling with.
- Go over assignments once a week.
- Make sure they wake up with adequate time for breakfast and preparing for the day.

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Engagement Tips for Students, cont.

Equipment

- Provide a reliable computer. If you need a more reliable laptop, check with your school to see if they have inventory left from the district's supply.
- Make sure students have physical text books on hand, to minimize the need for screen time.
- A printer can be useful to print out assignments and not have to rely on the computer.

Other

- Ask questions to make sure students are paying attention.
- Make a lunchbox just like they use at school, so they can feel they are doing the same thing as their friends at school.
- Sugar free gum can help with focus.
- Provide snacks during class.
- Use positive reinforcement/rewards for getting work done.
- Be sure to encourage lots of movement throughout the day.
- Take a walk outside before school and during recess/lunch.
- Make sure the student drinks water frequently.
- Allow kids to do projects with small groups of classmates over video after school.
- Provide teachers with regular feedback about how your child is doing, what's working and what isn't, including things your child responds well to.
- Engage in family time outside of school, including cooking, hiking, gardening, or other outdoor activities
- If it's feasible for your family, some kids are doing some classes in the Digital Academy and some as home school to provide a break from the computer.
- Allow students to play or listen to music while in class.
- The IXL Live feature can be used to monitor students working on skills.

Thank you to the families in Alachua County who shared these useful tips! Follow ACCPTA on [Facebook](#) or join our [group](#) for more information and to collaborate with other families.

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