

# Stuck at Home

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During 2020 where we have to be cautious about our surroundings, one of the best ways to stay safe is going virtual and learning from home. At-home learning environments are very different from being in school; At home, there should be a nice learning environment such as a desk or a table where students can sit up and put their phones away. In this space, students can stay focused on their work and not get distracted by constant notifications. Students should have all of the materials they need to prepare for the day at home as well. There are many different difficulties between younger and older students within everyone's own educational environments.



Younger students at home are very difficult to properly manage. It's difficult for parents to have to partake in teaching their kids what a teacher would normally teach them when they also are working a full time job. For young children, early literacy skills are crucial and parents being "engaged in with their children are of critical importance for . . . the acquisition of early literacy skills" (Nuttall), but with harder financial times, many are having even less time to spend time with their children to help them along.

Even with the older class of students it can be hard. Most students are finding it difficult because they are "struggling to understand assignments and getting easily distracted to not having reliable internet" (The New York Times). To help students feel less stressed and more focused on their assignments, it's best to get a routine down. Routines can help many people stay on task and having the correct materials also makes people feel more comfortable and ready for the day. Some routines that are good to try for high schoolers are, working on each class at a time, then between each class take a 10 minute break. A routine that worked for this specific household in a study, is having the "high schoolers go to their rooms to work and my junior high student works in the library. I teach science to my youngest boys then they start on their school work at the kitchen table while I supervise" (Thomas). This routine might be good for a household of all aged kids, if in need for a routine.

Many students of all ages K-12 are having a tough time adjusting to At-Home learning, but having the right environment helps.