

Ways for **you**  
to help your  
child with  
**homework!**



KULTUR OG  
BORGERSERVICE  
Aarhus Kommune

## Tips for when you want to help your child with homework

Create a daily routine for doing homework: for instance a set time of day where you sit down with one or more of the children and for instance ask:

- Could you show me what you worked on at school today?
- Is there something that you need to prepare for tomorrow? Why don't we look at your class schedule or your week-plan?
- Spend 10 to 15 minutes per child.

**»My job is to help the child concentrate and be calm«**

*Parent*

## Children help children

Older children can benefit tremendously from helping each other. You can suggest that they find a homework partner for instance for the homework that is particularly hard for them. This could be class mates or siblings.

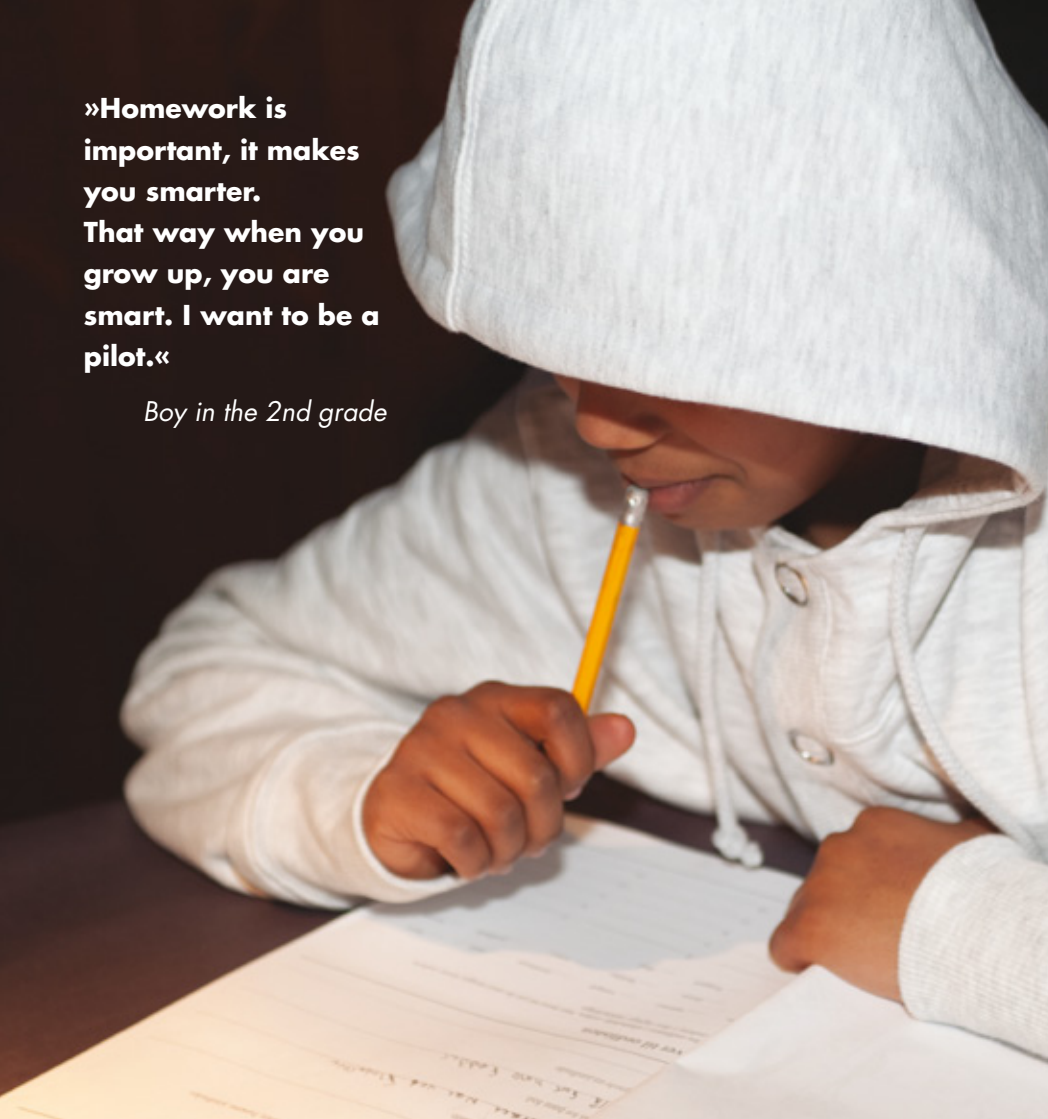


**»Homework is important, it makes you smarter. That way when you grow up, you are smart. I want to be a pilot.«**

*Boy in the 2nd grade*

**Your child can have different kinds of homework. Typically, the teachers give the children homework when:**

- **the child needs to practice or memorize something which the teacher has explained at school**
- **the child needs to prepare something new, for instance reading a story which will be used in the class room subsequently**
- **the child needs to complete an independent assignment, for instance write a story or give a presentation to the class about a subject of the child's choosing**





## The mother-tongue used to help learn Danish

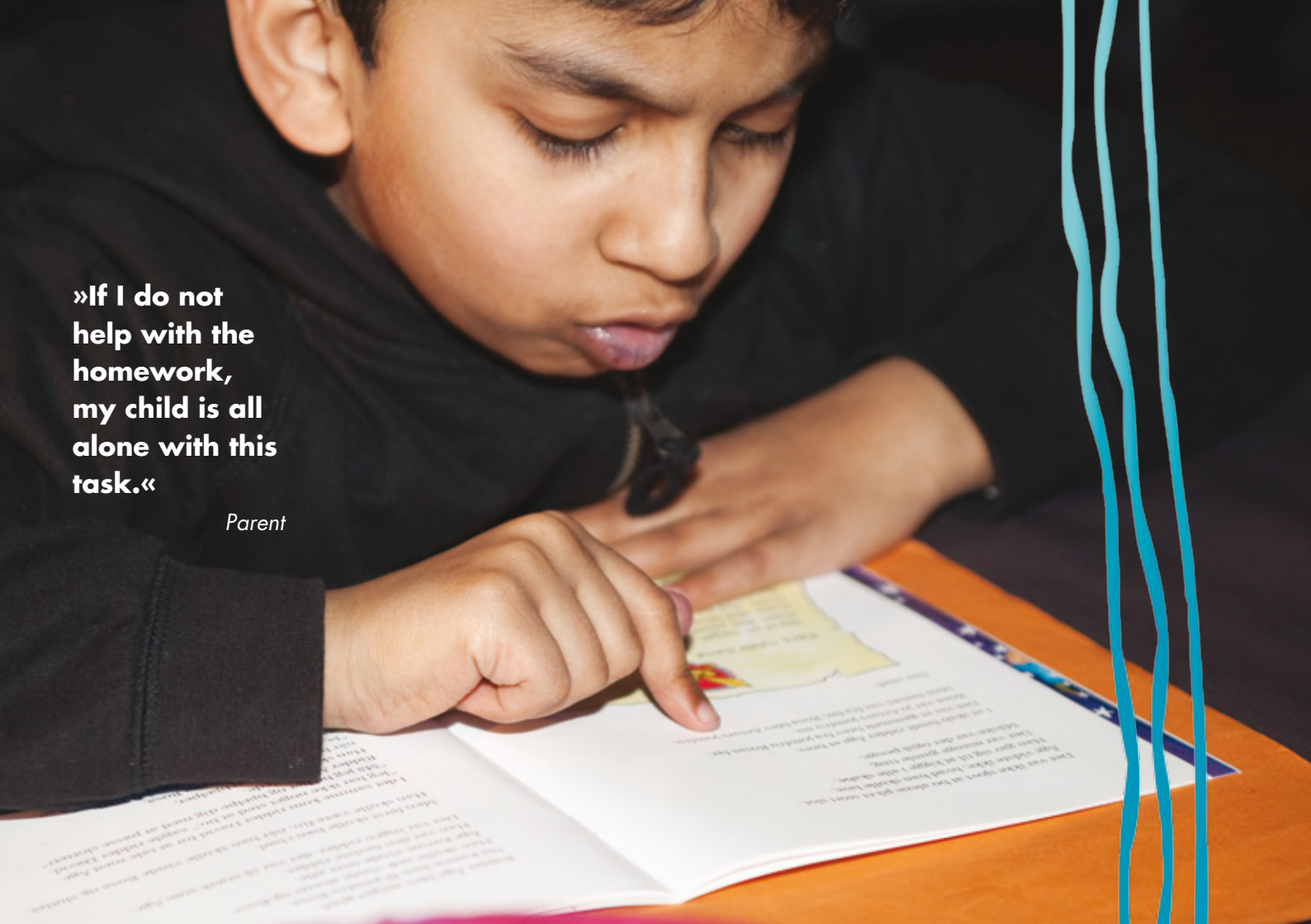
The mother-tongue is an important resource. The better the child is at speaking its mother-tongue, the better it will also be at both speaking and reading Danish. Therefore, it is a good idea to:

- speak a lot with your child about everything you experience – and go experience as much as possible
- tell stories to your child. Children who are told many stories will become good at telling stories themselves –also in other languages
- Read stories to your child in the mother-tongue – but there are several ways in which to read aloud:
  - You can ask if the child has understood
  - You can answer the child's questions
  - You can discuss what you see in the pictures
  - And maybe you could discuss what different things are called in Danish

Children who come from families where they speak a lot will be better at languages and will have an easier time learning to read.

**»If I do not help with the homework, my child is all alone with this task.«**

*Parent*





## You can borrow different books at the library which you can use along with your children:

- Books in the mother-tongue
- Books translated into the mother-tongue
- Fairytales you know from your own language translated into Danish
- Picture-with-words books

## If the children bring books home from school which they must read, you can:

- Let the children read aloud for you
- You can ask if they understand what they are reading
- What is it about?
- You can discuss the pictures in your mother-tongue or in Danish
- What do you see in the pictures?

Studies have shown that:

**»When children are around seven years old, their parents have six times as much influence on their learning as the school does.«**

*Professor Charles Deforges,  
Exter University, 2009*



## Where else can you get help?

There are homework cafés in a lot of libraries. In Århus, these libraries are:

- Gellerup Library
- Hasle Library
- The main Library
- Risskov Library
- Tranbjerg Library
- Skødstrup Library
- Viby Library

Online-lektiehjælp på:  
[www.lektier-Online](http://www.lektier-Online)

*The material was created based on a cooperation project between Viby Library, the City of Aarhus and VIA University College.*

*The project has been supported by Lektiecafepuljen, the Library and Media Board as well as funds from the City of Aarhus' pool: The framework for smaller initiatives regarding immigration*

Some housing associations also offer help with homework: ask about it in your housing association.

A lot of schools, SFO's and clubs also offer help with homework – ask about it at your child's school.

You can watch the video:  
Velkommen til den danske folkeskole at

[www.uvm.dk/velkommen](http://www.uvm.dk/velkommen)



Engelsk oversættelse af  
pjecen: Sådan kan du  
hjælpe dit barn med  
lektierne



**»Jeg har glemt engelsk og mange danske  
»I have forgotten English and I do not  
understand a lot of Danish words so it is hard  
to help him... Last year, I paid for him to get  
help with his homework, this year; I come  
here every Tuesday and Thursday. I want him  
to succeed.«**

*Parent about the homework cafe*

