

Getting Motivated

Motivating your child to do Kumon can be a challenging task; especially when the novelty has worn off. So what do you do when it becomes a daily struggle to get them to do their Kumon homework?

Changing Perspectives

Having a healthy homework habit & association with study is essential. Remember, children respond better to rewards and encouragement for completing tasks rather than being punished for not completing tasks. If Kumon becomes something they associate with punishment they will not want to sit down for their Kumon study. When things get rocky focus on routine and effort. Set a time limit for study each day and praise students for making the effort to try. If your child views Kumon as a small daily task that they are rewarded for completing they will feel more motivated to give it a go. Even if they're not getting all their sheets done at this stage, that's okay! Talk to us about what the expectation & goals should be until things are back on track.

Rewards and Setting Goals

Set goals, big and small, for your child, whether it's finishing a level, reaching Kumon International Standard or simply completing work. Children work better when they know what's expected of them and have the right support to achieve it. Using the stars in the study history tab in Kumon Connect, a points system, or habit tracking app can help children feel like they've earned something each study session.

Please turn over for some practical ideas you can use at home!

Point and Reward Examples

You are only limited by your imagination! Here are some ideas to get you started:

1) Use the stars in the Study History or a sticker chart

The stars in the study history tab create an easy visual for how frequently your child is studying. You can check their study record to confirm how many sheets and for how long they studied, as well as checking the quality of their work. When students are on track and motivated setting goals based on quantity and quality is wonderful. When things are hard, focus on sticking to the routine and just earning those stars! For paper program, create a chart where your child can see how many days in a row they have completed Kumon and how close they are to a goal. Have different stickers that your child use on the chart when they complete their Kumon. Setting study goals keeps children interested. Ticking off days or using stickers helps them take an active role in their study routine.

2) Set up a points system for Kumon

Once they have reached a certain number of points, say, if they do their Kumon every day for a week they earn a reward.

E.g. If your children do Kumon one day they earn 1 point

If they study two days in a row they earn 2 points + 2 bonus points for days in a row = 4 points

If they study for seven days in a row they've earned 7 points + 7 bonus points for days in a row = 14 points

If they study Monday-Wednesday & Saturday, they get 4 points + 3 bonus points for days in a row = 7 points

3) Choose a goal for your child

Goals can be study speed, score, number of sheets or number of days. It could be completing a level or a topic. Once your child has achieved the goal they get rewarded!

Choose rewards that are motivating for your child

Examples of rewards are:

- Picking their favourite meal or dessert
- Earning screen time, or screen time vouchers to be spent on weekends
- go out for ice cream/hot chocolate, just one parent and the child
- Social time with friends

Goals can be big or small, brainstorm together so your child feels involved and motivated!