

TIPS FOR TUTORING

What is a tutor?

Tutors are people who help other students learn by helping with their homework or other assignments.

Why be a Peer Tutor?

If you like to help others or think you may want to be a teacher as a career, you may want to learn how to be a Peer Tutor. Tutoring also helps you with your own learning—and it's fun! It's great to work with other students, and know that you are providing meaningful support.

Good Tutors:

Build confidence

Don't label a problem as easy or hard.

Never make fun of an answer; never make fun of your fellow student. Your tutee (the student you're tutoring) should always feel comfortable with you, and never feel shy or embarrassed about asking questions.

Share what you know. If you are helping a student who has the same teacher that you have had before, give tips about how that teacher assigns and grades work.

Ask questions

Help your tutee think through what he or she is doing. Ask for explanations of the steps that are being taken to solve the problem.

When helping with homework, ask questions about the assignment.

Start by asking your tutee to explain the assignment or problem in his or her own words.

Ask the student to explain what they don't understand and what they need help with. Ask where they're getting stuck.

Ask if the problem can be broken into smaller pieces or steps.

Ask if there are different ways to approach the problem or assignment.

Wait before jumping in with help

Give your student time to think about the answer or to try something new.

Demonstrate

Never just give the answer. Show ways to come up with the answer. Use examples or materials to explain or reinforce the idea.

Give feedback

Make sure you recognize and encourage effort, thinking, and work.