

Strengthening Study Skills Helps In All School Subjects

(NAPSA)—Of all the subjects taught in schoolrooms across the country, one of the most important skills is often overlooked: how to study.

There are four key areas that can help students improve their study skills: organization and time management, effective note-taking, reading and study strategies as well as test-taking techniques.

“By improving these skills, a student can learn faster, retain knowledge for longer periods of time and recall that knowledge with greater accuracy,” comments Richard Bavaria, Ph.D., vice president of education for Sylvan Learning Center. “It also means better performance on tests and exams, less time on homework and greater confidence in the classroom.”

Dr. Bavaria recommends the following tips to help students improve their study skills:

- **Keep a schedule**—All students should keep a schedule of classes, assignments and other key dates. As part of that schedule, they should set aside specific time for studying and project work. Students are less likely to find themselves scrambling to complete a project at the last minute or cramming the night before a big test if they have kept up with the work all along.

- **Take effective notes in class**—Most students take notes in classes, but often when they review the notes they can't make sense of the content. Students need to develop note-taking skills that include identifying key information and capturing it in a style



that makes for effective studying later.

- **Reading assignments**—Poor reading skills or an inability to read for important information makes assignments a burden and undermines overall academic success. If reading skills are weak, it's important for the student to seek help to improve them; otherwise performance in many subjects will be impacted.

- **Test-taking strategies**—A poor test result could mean that the student doesn't have a good grasp of the academic material, or it could just mean that the student may not take tests well. Effective test-taking strategies include: learning how to prioritize material when studying for a test; preparing for a test over a number of days; coping with stress during the test; and managing time during a test so all sections are completed.

For additional tips on study skills, instilling the joy of reading in children, and developing good writing skills, visit www.educate.com/tips or call Sylvan Learning Center at 1-800-31-SUCCESS.