

We have designed each “White Paper” to explore a fundamental educational principle and key issues engaging the education community we serve. It is our goal to partner with our readers as they meet the challenges they face.



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The Lifelong Parent as Educator and Castle Learning Online

Are parents being falsely accused of contributing to their child’s lack of achievement in school? While some parents may not be engaged, perhaps the question needs to be reframed: **Are parents being given the opportunity to participate in the educational life of their child?**

Parents of pre-school and elementary students begin raising their young scholars by **reading** stories at bedtime and introducing them to the local library. **Math** is always at the center of household counting games. They hang their child’s **art** on the “refrigerator museum” and even share **music** by singing favorite tunes. But by the time the child enters middle or high school, educational content is more sophisticated, and some parents may not know how to participate in their child’s educational life. Involvement consists of asking “How was your day at school today?”

When parents feel they have lost touch with their child’s education, *Castle Learning Online* can come to the rescue. The answer is as close as the Internet. *Castle Learning* allows parents to easily interact in every subject without needing to know all the answers. Parents can make a positive contribution in their child’s academic achievement when caring teachers and supportive administrators share this awesome tool with them.

How *Castle Learning Online* can help:

- **Mentoring**—Parents can mentor and guide learners to academic success with teacher created assignments or with those created at home for and with their children.
- **Help for Wrong Answers**—Parents and children can read, after any incorrect answer, an informative ‘hint’ plus related vocabulary/definitions, all leading to an opportunity for the student to answer again.
- **Personalized Reviews**—Instant feedback from assignments can give a student the edge about what areas need more review. It’s easy to create a personalized session and to work at a comfortable pace on content in need of review or even new topics.
- **Variety and Level of Difficulty**—Students have access to all courses at all levels including math and vocabulary activities.
- **Behind the Right Answers**—Answers include an explanation of the reasons why the choice is correct.

Our parents say it best:

- A parent wrote us saying that using *Castle Learning* helped her daughter who started in special education classes to “pass (with good grades) all of her regents examinations. She is in all mainstream classes and is now taking chemistry.”
- Another parent wrote about sampling *Castle Learning* during the summer: “We took some sample tests ourselves to familiarize ourselves with your site and were very impressed! The hints and reasons for the answers are great tools. This is one of the best educational sites we have been on.”

The **Lifelong Parent as Educator** theme is being used at Manhattan Hunter Science High School where parents have become Parent Coaches working with teachers to improve their child’s success and preparing him/her to be a **Lifelong Learner**. We at *Castle Learning Online* are delighted to be an integral part of this experience.