

## Banish homework battles with an 'I can' attitude

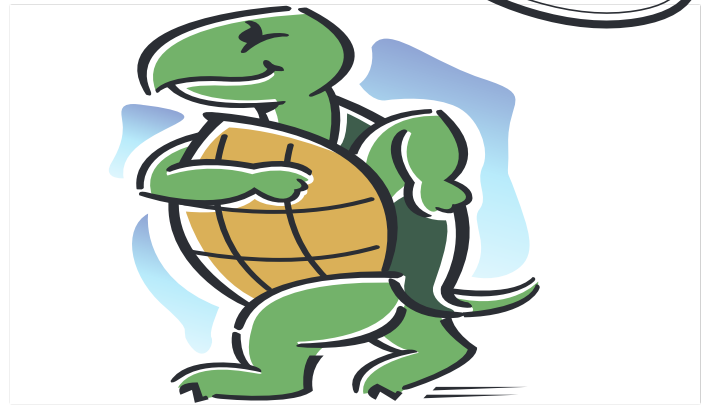
When children struggle with homework, many of them will say, "I can't do this. I'm just not smart." And when they don't feel "smart," kids often give up.

While intelligence may be a factor in school success, there are qualities much more important than having a high IQ. Some educators call this AQ—attitude quotient. Qualities that go into having a high AQ include persistence and a willingness to work hard.

To help your child develop an "I can" attitude, remind her of her past successes. Then encourage her to set a goal and work hard to reach it.

Start with small steps. Aiming for an A in math on her next report card when she has struggled to get a C all year may not be realistic. But working hard until she understands how to

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solve a tough algebra problem will build the confidence she needs to tell herself, "I can do this!"

When she reaches a goal, celebrate each success. Be sure to say, "I'm proud of you. Your hard work paid off."

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