

This activity gives each child a separate place to study or play.

## What you'll need

- Space—even a tiny area will do
- A small but steady table
- 1 chair
- 1 lamp
- Small floor covering

## What to do

- 1. Together, find a quiet study area away from the TV and radio for *each child* (even those not old enough to have homework yet).
- Cut down an old blanket, rug, or sheet to put on a small area of the floor. Use this to mark off each child's private space. Put the table and chair on the floor covering.

This space does not *have* to be in the same place all the time. If the table is light weight, the floor cover can be put down any place it is out of the way (such as near the kitchen if a child needs help while dinner is being fixed). It can also be put away when it is not being used.

- 3. If the study space will always be in the same place, try out different arrangements of the furniture to see what works best. Arrange the lamp so the study area is well lit.
- 4. Together, label items with the child's name.



Watch for improvement and show pleasure when quality of work improves. Children tend to argue over the same space (even in a big room). By having an area of the floor marked off, each child has a place that feels like his or her own. A special place also helps children focus on what they are studying.