

Advice From Former Tutors

- Be patient.
- Listen to your student.
- Be supportive, encouraging, and patient.
- Definitely show up every week. The kids really do care whether you're there for them or not. And they love telling you stories about their day.
- Each minute you are at SOAR should be focused on your student. Knowing that there is someone there for them does more for their confidence than you can imagine, and they will love you for it.
- Be warm, friendly, understanding. . . but don't forget about the rules! Remember to keep pushing and encouraging when the students are hesitant, because they are capable of great things!
- Be patient. Think creatively. If something doesn't work, approach it from a different angle. Find their interests and work it into their homework.
- The goal is to understand the process of getting to the answer.
- Push the kids to do their best, and they will probably surprise you with what they are capable of.
- Ask others for help if there's any language barrier.
- Remember they are students just like you and they have good days and bad days as well.
- Come each week (or whatever days you commit to)! They look forward to their time with you, so don't disappoint them!
- Make sure that you are patient with your student and show them the same respect you expect to receive. Also, make sure they you look like you want to be there with them. Most importantly, have fun with them and they will most likely be willing to cooperate and do their homework and have fun with you.
- Be patient and take the time to figure out how to be effective on an individual basis. What works for one kid doesn't necessarily work for another.
- Don't be intimidated! But don't intimidate your student either. Respect is a two-way street and you have to give it to earn it, even (or especially) from a child.
- One of the best things about SOAR is the personal relationship you form with the kids. Having said this, it is very important to be here every week. The kids really do get disappointed when their tutors do not show up.
- You only see a very small part of the lives of these children, and you might not see what good you do for them. Don't let that discourage you because you never know what impact you might have.