

Von Renner
Site Homework Plan
2018-2019

Definition: Homework is defined as the time students spend outside the classroom in assigned learning activities.

Homework is an integral component of education that deepens student learning and understanding. Although teachers are not required to assign homework daily or otherwise, when it is assigned, K-5 students will participate in homework that is relevant, purposeful and appropriate, as determined by the teaching staff.

Meaningful and Appropriate homework:

1. Has a clear academic purpose (such as practice, checking for understanding, or applying knowledge or skills)
2. Efficiently demonstrates student learning
3. Promotes ownership (by offering choices and being personally relevant)
4. Instills a sense of competence (the student can successfully complete it with little or no help)
5. Is relevant to learning outcomes

Time: Homework can increase gradually in amount, variety, and frequency as students' progress from grade to grade. The following time allotment is recommended, as a guide, for homework assigned, by grade level.

- **Kindergarten** **10 minutes**
- **1st grade** **10 minutes**
- **2nd grade** **20 minutes**
- **3rd grade** **30 minutes**
- **4th grade** **40 minutes**
- **5th grade** **50 minutes**

Important note: These times are based on recommended on task times per grade level.

Parent/Guardian Participation Expectations:

1. Purpose: The purpose of homework in elementary school is to practice and encourage mastery of basic skills and to provide opportunities for students to connect classroom learning with daily life.
2. In order to establish appropriate homework routines and practices, parent involvement is encouraged in kindergarten through second grade.

3. In grades three through five, homework, including projects, should be completed largely independently by students.
4. Teachers may or may not assign grades to homework, depending on the assignment and purpose. Please consult your student's teacher to discuss their particular plan.

Student Support for Time Management:

1. If long-term or multi-step projects are assigned, they should be initiated and primarily undertaken in the classroom. While portions of projects may require completion at home, these tasks should not require group participation, significant assistance from parents, or costly materials.
2. Long-term assignments should include clear benchmarks with which to monitor progress toward completion. These types of assignments or project should include a clear rubric that provides students with expectations for each assigned section.

Responsibilities: Student success with homework depends on the cooperative efforts of students, parents/guardians, teachers, and administrators.

Students-

1. Collect the necessary materials to complete the assignment
2. Ask meaningful questions and seek help from the teacher if confused about the assignment or any part of the work
3. Be responsible for completing and returning all assignments on time to the teacher. This includes making up homework when absent and following high expectations for quality in their work.
4. Budget time wisely and share time/expectations with parents/guardians, especially on long-term assignments.

Parent/Guardian Responsibilities-

1. Encourage student to have an organized approach to homework and make sure they have all of the needed materials
2. Monitor student's effort to show support
3. Assist student in setting up a regularly scheduled homework time at a reasonable hour, as needed. See that the student meets that commitment. Allow sufficient time for homework even though student may be involved in family and community activities (sports, scouts, dance, art, etc.)
4. If a problem arises over homework time, difficulty or completion due to extenuating circumstances, contact the student's teacher

Teacher Responsibilities-

1. Be sure all homework assignments are created with a clear purpose that supports the learning objective.
2. Modify assignments to meet student needs as necessary.
3. Prepare students for success, explain all tasks and directions
4. Give meaningful homework and provide students with prompt feedback.
5. Inform parents/guardians of long-term assignments and expected timelines for completion.
6. If a problem arises over homework quality or completion, contact parent/guardian in person, by phone, email, or Class Dojo.
7. Set up a system to address late or incomplete assignments and clearly communicate in written form to students and parents/guardians.

Administrator Responsibilities-

1. Assist in the dissemination and implementation of the Elementary Homework Guidelines to all teachers, parents, guardians, and students.
2. Help explain, clarify and interpret all parts of the guidelines and to assist in the mediation of disputes regarding homework practices.

Communication of Policies-

1. District/School website
2. Class Dojo
3. Notes sent home
4. Phone Dialer