

Homework Ideas

When homework is not formally assigned, consider the following:

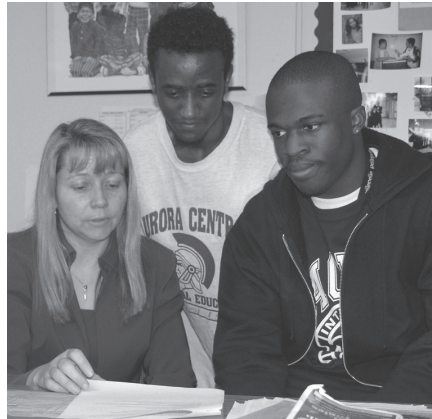
- Independent reading or reading with a parent
- Independent research of topics of interest, such as science projects
- Independent writing, such as short stories, letters to relatives, journaling, back and forth notes between students and parents
- District resources available at district homework Web site
- Watch and summarize educational programs, such as Discovery, Animal Planet, or public television programs
- Essential spelling lists, math facts, and grammar activities



What Makes a Good Assignment?

A homework assignment should meet one or more of these criteria:

- Suited to individual needs
- Clearly understood by the student
- Can be accomplished independently
- Stimulating and challenging
- An assignment not finished in class may be sent home for homework



Why Homework?

The value of homework is a function of the appropriateness of the assignments, its quality, and the relevance to classroom instruction.

Homework is assigned to:

- Provide reinforcement, practice, application, and enrichment of what is taught in a standards-based classroom
- Provide an opportunity for student creativity
- Foster a closer home-school connection and ongoing parental involvement
- Develop independent study habits and extend learning activities beyond the school day
- Teach efficient use of time



Responsibility of Students

- Maintain a homework assignment notebook or log listing subjects, assignment dates, due dates, and dates when assignments were turned in.
- Complete all homework assignments neatly, legibly, and accurately and turn in by the due date.
- Make necessary corrections on the returned homework and share the teacher's evaluation of homework assignments with parents.
- Attempt the assignment independently, and then seek help, as needed, from parents, teachers, and community resources.
- Begin long-range assignments and projects early and maintain steady progress.

Responsibility of Parents

- Provide space and quiet time for the child to complete homework daily.
- Monitor that homework is being done and review corrected homework returned by the teacher.
- Assist children in the use of community resources, such as libraries, that can be helpful to the student when completing homework.
- Monitor the child's progress through progress reports, parent portal, and contact with teachers.
- Realize that homework is designed to help the child become independent and responsible.
- Consult the teacher if there are problems completing the assignment.

Responsibility of Schools

- Support and implement the school homework policy in the classroom.
- Develop a record-keeping/monitoring system and hold students accountable for completing homework. Review all homework, give feedback, grade all homework noting areas for correction, and return all collected assignments promptly.
- Share the homework plan with students and parents and provide instruction to help students develop appropriate study habits and strategies.
- Assign homework that considers the needs and demands of family life and health of students.
- Plan and assign homework that is adapted to the needs of the individual student.

Time per Week

- Regardless of age, nightly reading is recommended. Parents/guardians are encouraged to read aloud to their children in English or in their native language.
- The amount of homework will vary according to content and grade level.

Grade Span	Frequency	Time Ranges
K-1	1-2 days per week	10-15 minutes per day
2	2 days per week	10-30 minutes per day
3	2 days per week	15-30 minutes per day
4	2-3 days per week	15-30 minutes per day
5	3-4 days per week	15-30 minutes per day
6-8		A minimum of 2 and a maximum of 5 hours per week (total of all classes)
9-12		A minimum of 3 and a maximum of 10 hours per week (total of all classes)