

Board of Education Homework Policy #3360

Homework assignments are an integral part of student learning in Lyme/Old Lyme Public Schools. Appropriate homework assignments shall be given in quantity and degree of difficulty corresponding to the age, grade level, and ability of students. Assignments requiring the researching of information outside of the classroom and written reports are encouraged.

Homework Guidelines

Homework is designed to develop student responsibility, independence, and good study routines while reinforcing new knowledge and skills. In addition to these district wide goals, homework also has particular areas of focus at each level as indicated below:

K-2

- Introduce daily routines for managing homework materials
- Support parents in establishing study routines at home
- Foster home and school communication and involvement

3-5

- Increase student independence
- Develop study skills
- Develop research and writing skills
- Foster independent reading

Helpful Homework Habits

- Make homework a priority!
- Have a regularly scheduled time and quiet, supervised place to do homework.
- Have supplies on hand:
 - Pencils
 - Markers
 - Crayons
 - Glue and tape
 - Dictionary and Thesaurus
 - Stapler and staples
 - Paper (lined and unlined)
 - Construction paper
 - Poster board
 - Scissors
 - Rulers (cm & inches)
 - Flashcards
- Encourage your child to:
 - Review list of homework assignments and plan time.
 - Read the directions for each assignment.
 - Check answers and make sure work is legible.
 - Put homework in backpack to bring back to school.

NOTE:



Students should be doing most of their homework on their own. If your child is spending an inordinate amount of time or is struggling with an assignment, please contact your child's teacher.



K-5 Homework Guidelines 2017-18

Homework Overview

At the K-5 level, teachers typically assign 10 minutes per grade level of homework plus an additional daily independent reading time. There may be exceptions from time to time for special assignments or changes in schedule. This time does not include unfinished classwork. Homework is not usually assigned over the weekend, or if assigned, students have option of completing it during the week.

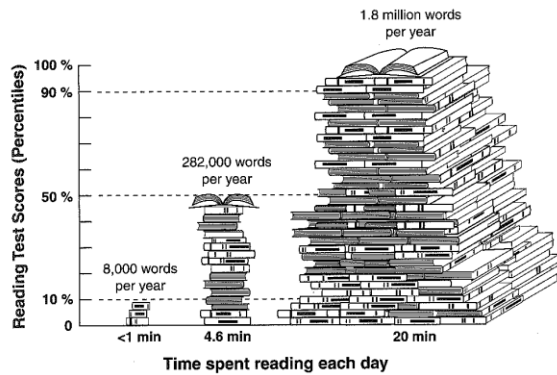
Daily Homework Expectations

Kindergarten: 0-10 min. HW + 10-15 min. reading
Grade 1: ~10 min. HW + 10-15 min. reading
Grade 2: ~20 min. HW + 10-15 min. reading
Grade 3: ~30 min. HW + 15-20 min. reading
Grade 4: ~40 min. HW + 15-20 min. reading
Grade 5: ~50 min. HW + 15-20 min. reading

Supporting ELA at Home

Did you know...?

Vocabulary is integral to comprehension. Books offer almost 3 times as many complex words than the speech of even the most educated speakers. Children's books have "50 percent more rare words in them than does the conversation of college graduates."



Hirsch, E.D., Jr. "Vocabulary: The Key to Upward Mobility." *City Journal* (Winter 2013): n. pag. Web. 28 Mar. 2017.

Shaywitz, Sally E. *Overcoming dyslexia: a new and complete science-based program for reading problems at any level*. New York: A.A. Knopf, 2012. Print.

Fun Games for Language and Literacy (apps and board/book games)

<i>Guess Who?</i>	<i>5-Second Rule</i>	<i>Taboo</i>
<i>Crossword Puzzles</i>	<i>Apples to Apples</i>	<i>Boggle</i>
<i>Word Searches</i>	<i>Bananagrams</i>	<i>Clue</i>
<i>Scattergories</i>	<i>Scrabble</i>	<i>Mad Libs</i>

**For more ideas and resources
for promoting literacy skills and
excitement, check out:**

www.region18.org for Literacy website

Supporting ELA at Home

- Create a peaceful "homework place," free from clutter and distractions, such as at a cleared desk or table in a quiet room
- Develop a routine with your child for completing homework and reading. For example, your child might settle into a habit of doing homework after school with a snack, then reading each night before bed.
- Snuggle with your child and explore the pages of books together, fostering a positive association between reading and cherished time with you. Short on time? Read a book with your older child separately and jot comments to each other on post-its.
- Model for your child the importance of reading. Let him/her see you settle down with a book, magazine, or newsfeed. Show your enthusiasm for your reading by sharing juicy tidbits from a story or discussing the impact of a news article.
- Model purposeful writing too! Let your child see how you communicate through writing with friends, clients, and colleagues; take notes as you perfect a recipe; make to-do lists; or keep a journal of your vacations, hobbies, feelings, or funny/memorable moments with family and friends.

Free ebooks/audiobooks

Need library card – more info on town library websites
Overdrive researchIT CT

Students may log on through *Clever* at region18.org
Tumblebooks *Epic!*
PebbleGo *PebbleGo Next*
Britannica *BrainPOP*

Supporting Math at Home

- Make learning math a positive experience for your child
- Play games using cards, dice, and dominoes
- Involve your child in "real world" math problems that occur in your everyday life
- Expect your child to use multiple strategies to solve math problems
- Encourage the use of mathematical models to support the development of a strong conceptual understanding of the mathematics
- Engage your child in "math talk" and stress the importance of explaining their thinking
- Allow the use of math apps and online math programs. These will reinforce skill development and understanding of concepts

Great Math Sites for Children

- Dreambox www.dreambox.com
- Greg Tang <http://gregtangmath.com/>
- NCTM Illumination <https://illuminations.nctm.org/>
- Thinking Blocks <http://www.mathplayground.com/thinkingblocks.html>
- Math Playground <http://www.mathplayground.com/>
- Bedtime Math <http://bedtimemath.org/>
- Math Learning Center <http://www.mathlearningcenter.org/resources/apps>

Math Apps for the Ipad

- Greg Tang – Kakooma
- NCTM Illuminations – Five Frame
- Math Learning Center – Fractions
- Math Tappers – Number Line
- Motion Math – Hungry Guppy
- Key Stage Fun – Squeebles Math
- Todo Math

Go to www.region18.org for
Region18 Math Coach's Website