

## Westport Community Schools Homework Guidelines PreK-6\*

We, in the Westport Community Schools, believe that homework is an integral part of the total instructional program. Homework extends learning opportunities beyond the confines of the school day. We recognize that meaningful homework contributes toward building responsibility and self-discipline in children, helping children to develop good study habits and lifelong learning habits, and provides parent(s)/guardian(s) a greater appreciation of and an opportunity for involvement in their child's/children's schooling. We further believe that time spent on homework directly influences the student's ability to meet the State and District's academic standards and to successfully complete classroom assessments. In a "standards-based" academic environment, it is expected that all children will meet all standards. We will strive to ensure that all children succeed! Toward that end, in partnership with parent(s)/guardian(s) we understand that homework may be assigned. Homework needs to be meaningful and grade and level appropriate to benefit the student. Parent(s)/guardian(s) will be made aware of homework assignments, expectations, progress, etc. by their child's teacher(s) through agendas, notes, technology, etc. Parent(s)/Guardian(s) are welcome to make an appointment with a teacher to discuss homework.

### **FOR GRADES PREK-6\*:**

- Pre-kindergarten may be given periodic activities to complete outside of school, at home.
- Kindergarten may be assigned homework no more than four times per week, requiring an average time of ten (10) minutes each night to complete.
- First grade may be assigned homework, requiring an average time of ten (10) to fifteen (15) minutes each night to complete.
- Second grade may be assigned homework, requiring an average time of twenty (20) minutes each night to complete.
- Third grade may be assigned homework, requiring an average time of thirty (30) minutes each night to complete.
- Fourth grade may be assigned homework,, requiring an average time of forty (40) minutes each night to complete.
- Fifth grade may be assigned homework, requiring an average time of Fifty (50) minutes each night to complete.
- Sixth grade may be assigned homework, requiring an average time of Sixty (60) minutes each night to complete.

\*average times may differ because of individual student needs

### **PARENT(S)/GUARDIAN(S)**

In addition to regular homework, students are expected to read (preferably under parent supervision or with parent involvement) outside of school on a daily basis. Reading outside the classroom needs to be a balance between self-selected readings and teacher-assigned texts.... Below are suggested guidelines for accomplishing this goal.

For grades K-3, 80-100 minutes per week.

For grades 4-5, 120-150 minutes per week

For grades 6 150 or more minutes per week

Suggestions to promote Learning Readiness for Your Child(ren):

You can assist your child's learning progress by following a few simple processes:

Please ensure that your child gets a good night's rest on school nights (9-10 hours)

Please limit television and/or video game play which includes violence

Please be sure to read with your child every week night and on weekends

Please provide a variety of reading material and/or attend a library weekly

Please be sure your child eats a good breakfast before coming to school

Please provide an appropriate place to study away from distractions and TV.

\*Homework may be graded and homework will not account for more than 10% of any final grade for the school year. Every effort will be made to ensure that all students understand the concepts and possess the skills needed to complete any homework assignment. With few exceptions i.e. Summer Reading, special pre-arranged projects, etc. homework will not be assigned and related testing will not be done during a day immediately following a long vacation. Teachers will maintain the discretion to determine meaningful homework assignments, length of assignments, etc.