

HOMEWORK

The Board supports teachers and administrators who are continually concerned that the purposes of homework lessons assigned for completion by students be carefully explained. Homework can be a meaningful and positive activity with purposes related to one or more of four major categories:

1. Enrichment
2. Reinforcement
3. Preparatory
4. Skill Development

Enrichment assignments are normally those lessons in which all students may realistically enhance their personal growth and development. Students are usually given great latitude regarding the topic and the scope of their reading and research. Except for general teacher guidelines, the student's efforts may result in an original and creative lesson for that student.

Reinforcement lessons are not generally assigned to all class members since individual students have a varying need for this type of homework. In contrast to enrichment assignments, reinforcement lessons are generally on a daily basis and are also on a one to one basis with the teacher.

Skill development lessons are usually assigned to all students and are closely related to the regular current classwork. Analysis of weaknesses and strengths is noted regularly by the teachers and is used to assist the student through supervision by the teacher of the initial practice by student before independent work is assigned.

Preparatory homework is normally intended to familiarize the student with a content or topic and to serve as a basis for subsequent activity.

The Board expects that great care must continually be exercised by the teacher to permit students adequate personal time and time for physical and cultural development. A lengthy day of serious study followed by demands and pressures of excessive outside assignments may cause negative student attitudes to develop. Therefore, homework assignments should be approached from a positive viewpoint so that they will enhance student success in school. The age, capability, normal growth pattern of children and other demands on student time should be taken into consideration when assignments are administered.

Legal Reference: 511 IAC 6.1-5-9