

## **Bagby Homework guidelines for teachers and parents:**

### **Motivations for homework:**

- To encourage an interest in reading and learning.
- To provide an opportunity to pursue a special interest or encourage talents and abilities.
- To practice, expand, and enrich regular class work building skill competency.

### **Homework Basics:**

- There will be no more than 4 days of homework assigned.
- Long term projects are generally completed during classroom time; however some students may require or desire additional work time. Expense of money and time are considered when assigning projects.
- Along with the nightly reading, which is based on student choice and interest, there is often an additional element of student choice contained in the homework.
- Repetition does not lead to understanding.
- Family time and student down time is valued.
- Teachers have the freedom to assign no homework, occasionally.
- Parents have the freedom to reduce homework with written notification to teacher.
- Teachers may provide additional time and space to complete homework, as needed. This time will constitute no more than 5 minutes of a student break, or be specific time set aside in the class weekly schedule.

### **The following time chart suggests the maximum amount of minutes that children should actively focus on homework assignments. \***

- Kindergarten – 20 minutes of reading and book chat with a proficient reader
- Grade One: 10 minutes (plus 20 minutes reading)
- Grade Two: 20 minutes (plus 20 minutes reading)
- Grade Three: 30 minutes (plus 20 minutes reading)
- Grade Four: 40 minutes (plus 20 minutes reading)
- Grade Five: 50 minutes (plus 20 minutes reading)

### **Parents:**

- Please provide a quiet, well lit space for students to do their homework.

- Help your child budget time throughout the week.
- Positively encourage your child as they independently do their homework.
- Your child's teacher will take an active interest in the reasons why homework is not being turned in, or is incomplete. They will notify and work closely with the family to help establish a routine in the home, and will modify work as necessary. If a teacher chooses, homework may count up to 10% of a subject grade.

*For information about homework and daily reading check out these sources*

<http://www2.ed.gov/parents/academic/help/homework/homework.pdf>

<http://www.k12reader.com/why-read-20-minutes-a-day/>

*\*The National PTA, NEA and Department of Education recommendations fall in line with general guidelines suggested by researcher Harris Cooper: 10-20 minutes per night in the first grade, and an additional 10 minutes per grade level thereafter.*