

# *Skyward and Homework*

**By Ms. Siminski 2016**

WELCOME to  
Parent Training  
Night



## YOU'LL NEED

Chromebook, Skyward Log-in information, pencil, notebook paper, HW strategies sheet, Student Grade contract

## BEFORE CLASS

### STARTS

1. LOG into your Skyward account.
2. MAKE SURE you have all the materials included above.

### What's the goal?

To be able to get on Skyward and use it to support your child's schooling process

DID you  
KNOW ?

The national animal of Scotland is the unicorn.

Welcome to being a parent of a teenager. Prepare for a large amount of eye rolling, emotional outbursts, and thoughts of running away. And that's just the parents.



[FACEBOOK.COM/MOTHERHOOD.ORG](https://www.facebook.com/motherhood.org)

Respect your parents! They had to do their homework without Google.



somee cards  
user card

**Thank you for  
being you - a  
parent of a  
middle schooler.**

**I'M NOT A NAG**

**I'M A MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER**

quickmeme.com

## A Review of the papers you've been given...

- ★ Welcome to Middle School Brochure
- ★ Student Grade Contract
- ★ Skyward picture instruction sheet
- ★ Homework Strategies sheet
- ★ Notebook paper

*You should also have a Chromebook, writing utensil, and your Skyward log-in info.*

# Skyward

An introduction and how to



What is it?



Why do we use  
it?



What can it tell  
you?



How do you  
understand it?



What do you do  
about it?

## What it is and what it's not...

### IT IS...

- A communication tool
- A relatively accurate picture of your child's understanding of the content
- A good snapshot of the work being done in class

### IT'S NOT...

- 100% accurate 100% of the time
- The final word on a child's understanding
- The only way to communicate with the teacher
- A perfect picture of everything taught/done

# Why do we use it?

## To Communicate

It's the fastest way to communicate with you on your child's progress in the class. Missing assignments, low grades on tests, etc. all give you a picture of your child's learning progress.

## To Keep records

It's a uniform way that we keep track of student work and progress on the standards. We use it to evaluate the success of a lesson, students for intervention, and of course, how every student is doing.

# What can it tell you?

*If you haven't already done so, please log into your Skyward account and open up your child's gradebook.*

<https://www.skyward.com/Parents-and-Students/Family-Access-Toolkit/Parents/Video/Checking-Grades>

If you want to check out more of the videos from Skyward or to learn about other features, go to

<https://www.skyward.com/Parents-and-Students/Family-Access-Toolkit/Parents>

**IMPORTANT NOTE - DISTRICTS GET TO CHOOSE WHAT THINGS ARE AVAILABLE SO YOU MAY SEE SOME OPTIONS THAT ARE NOT ENABLED FOR OUR DISTRICT. WANT TO SEE THEM? CONTACT STUDENT LEARNING!**



# How do I understand it?

***NOW THAT YOU HAVE LOGGED IN, FOLLOW ALONG WITH THE QUESTIONS AND DEMONSTRATIONS TO SEE YOUR OWN VERSION. ON YOUR NOTEBOOK PAPER, FEEL FREE TO JOT DOWN IDEAS, QUESTIONS, OR CONCERNS AS WE GO.***

***Q: What's with all the weird assignment names?***

A: Unfortunately, with the way Skyward is set up for grading, it's hard to see everything from the teacher view, which leads to code names - especially for repeat assignments. Nearly always, teachers put more information in the description of the assignment.

# Take a look

## TEACHER VIEW

MM Lan W04-F 09/30 FORM 4 2.20	CY 1-4 W04-W 09/28 FORM 4 3.00	SP Tes W03-F 09/23 ATP 4 3.60	SP HW W03-F 09/23 FORM 4 3.00	MM Lan W03-F 09/23 FORM 4 3.40	Syllab W02-F 09/16 FORM 4 3.20
4	3	3	3	4	✓
2	3	4	3	2	0
4	2	3	3	4	✓
1	4	4	3	4	✓
0	3	4	3	3	✓

FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT	
weighted at 10.00%	
10/14/16	MM Language
10/14/16	4 HW SP
10/10/16	5 HW SP
10/07/16	MM Language
10/07/16	3 HW SP
09/30/16	MM Language
09/30/16	2 HW SP
09/28/16	CY 1-4
09/23/16	SP HW 1
09/23/16	MM Language
09/16/16	Syllabus Signature

**CLICK  
ON THE  
BLUE  
AND YOU  
WILL  
SEE...**

### Assignment Details

LANGUAGE 7A (Period 1) H SIMINSKI

**CY 1-4** (Category: FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT)

Caught YA (CY) - We complete each one together in class. All the answers are on the board in class. HOMEWORK/IN-CLASS WORK 4- Everything done correctly 3 ? Most done right except for 1-2 2 ? A few things incorrect 1 ? Tried all problems 0 ? Missing/Incomplete

Assign Date: Mon Sep 19, 2016 Date Due: Wed Sep 28, 2016

Max Score: 4 Weight: 1.00

Absent:

Info: (GEORGE WASHINGTON BUSH MS)

Points Earned: [REDACTED]

Percent: [REDACTED]

Grade: [REDACTED]

Missing: No Count

**Overall Class Score Info:**

Average: 3.00 Median: 3

High: 4 Low: 2

**In the assignment details, you can find more information about what the assignment is and even the average score of the class.**

# How do I understand it?

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***Q: What is an “ATP” or “90%” or “Project”?***

**A:** These assignments are weighted at 90%. They include things like

- Tests
- Essays
- Posters
- Portfolio
- presentations

*If a student is missing one of these assignments or didn't get a good grade on it, they'll want to fix or finish it ASAP. There are deadlines when these projects cannot be accepted anymore or retaken. Check with each teacher if you have questions about specific assignments.*

# How do I help my child?

***NOW THAT YOU HAVE LOGGED IN, FOLLOW ALONG WITH THE QUESTIONS AND DEMONSTRATIONS TO SEE YOUR OWN VERSION. ON YOUR NOTEBOOK PAPER, FEEL FREE TO JOT DOWN IDEAS, QUESTIONS, OR CONCERNS AS WE GO.***

***Q: Ok, I know how to use Skyward, but I still don't know how to help my kid. Now what?***

**A:** Here are some ideas.

- ★ Ask your child about the assignment while you're looking at Skyward together.
- ★ Check Google Classroom
- ★ Check their binders/bags/pockets
- ★ Email the teacher
- ★ Schedule a meeting

# Homework

What it looks like in middle school

★ Do they have it?

★ How do I know what it is?

★ How do I know if it's done?

★ How do I know where it is?

★ How do I help — them?

Do they have  
homework?

YES!!!

Even if they “don’t,”  
setting a daily  
homework time is a  
GREAT idea!

# How do I know what and where it is?

***Take out the Homework Strategies Sheet and look it over as we go.***

- They should be writing in their planner every day for every class - homework and what they did that day.
- Most of the teachers in the building post things in Google Classroom, including the instructions or online textbook.
- Talk with your student (see Homework Strategies) - REMEMBER - make statements, not questions.
  - Check through their binder, bag, and pockets.

If all of those come up empty, email the teacher directly.

# How do I know if it's done?

***Take out the Homework Strategies Sheet and look it over as we go.***

- Talk to your child - statements not questions.
- Check Skyward - limit yourself to max of 3 times a week.  
(Recommend Monday, and Thursday)
- Check through their binders and Google classroom (Google classroom work that's turned in will be be marked done)



# How do I help them?

***Take out the Homework Strategies Sheet and look it over as we go.***

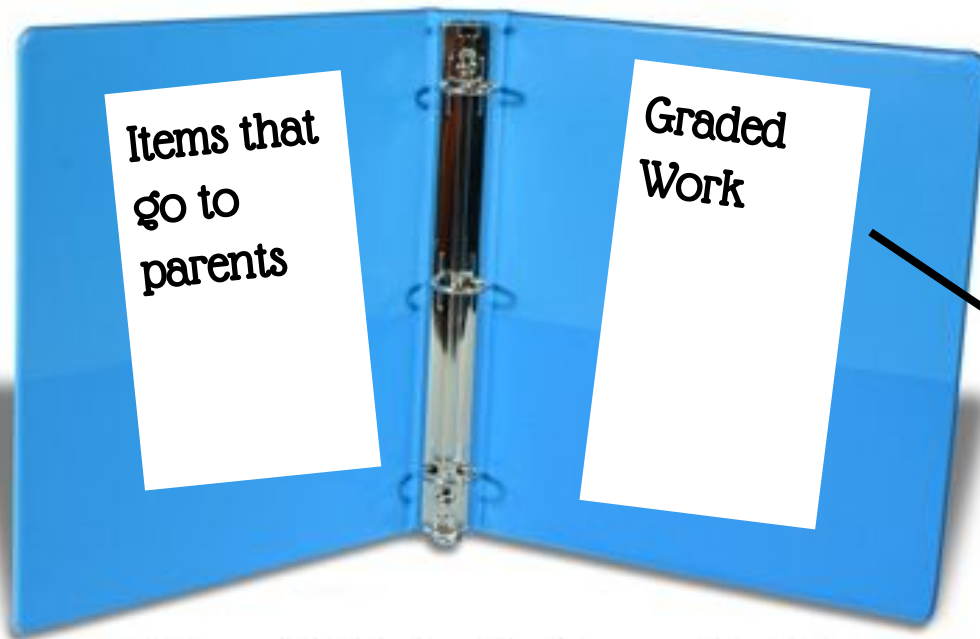
- Install a daily homework time - even work on Moby Max or reading is better than nothing! (About an hour is a good starting point)
- Sit down and go through things together with them. Use the Homework Strategies Sheet to help you have a conversation.
  - Start a grade contract
- Homework club after school Mondays/Thursdays (till 3:40)
  - Email the teacher directly.
  - Daily reorganize their binder (see next slide).

# Binder Organization

## ***What you'll need***

- 2 inch binder or 3 inch with inside pockets on the inside cover (too many pockets allows kids to stuff things too easily)
- 6 dual pocket folders (relatively durable)
- Permanent marker

# Binder Organization



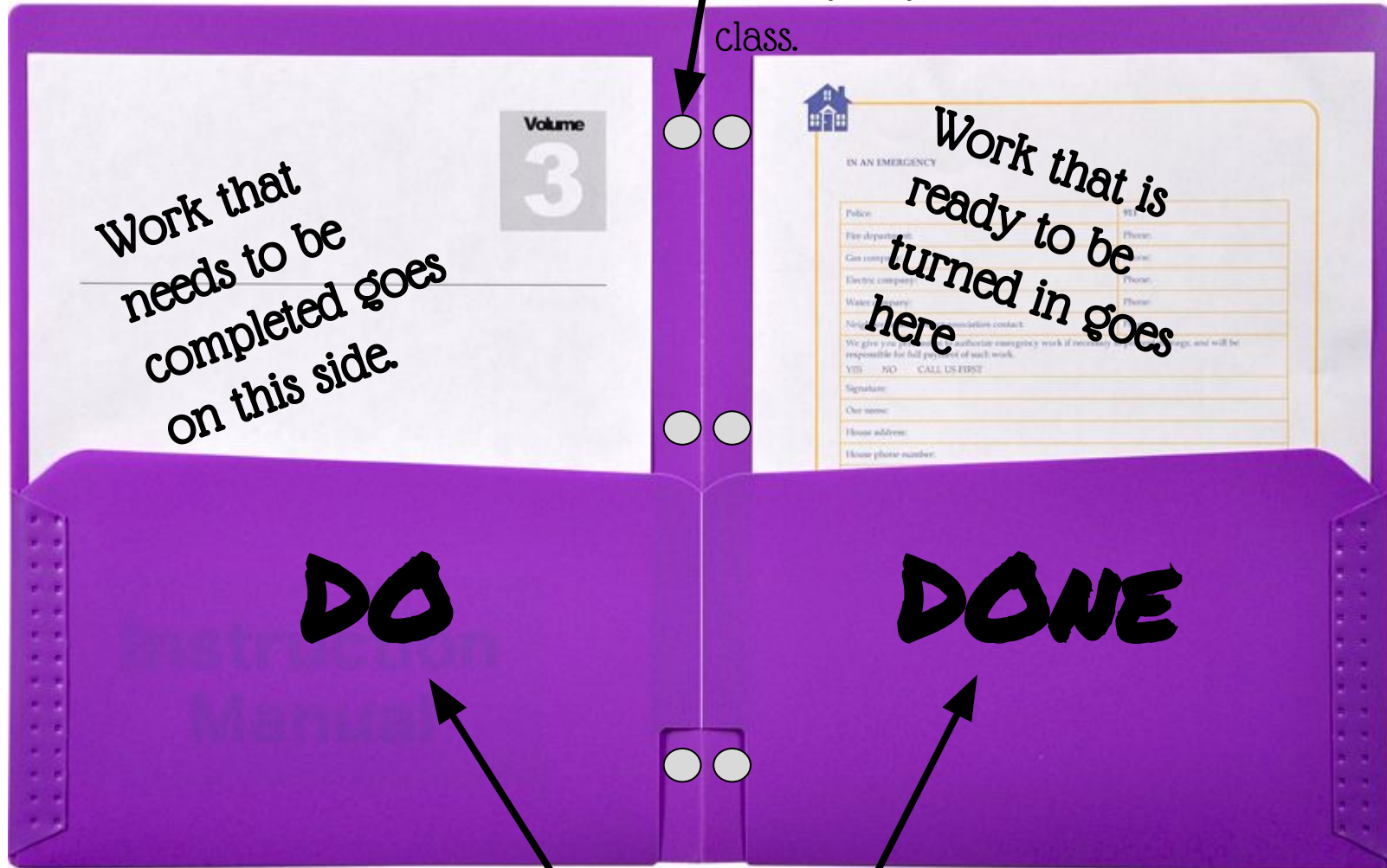
Inside pockets (front and back), opaque blue vinyl

When they get home, graded work can be stored in a box under their bed. If something happens, they can always go back and get it



# Binder Organization

See the hole punches? These folders can be used as dividers now with notes going behind the folder for that class.



Write this inside each folder and explain to your child.