

Example Excerpt of Math Homework Expectations

At [Name of School], we value opportunities for independent practice and review of content taught during the school day. We view math homework as an opportunity to enhance understanding, not as a place to assign new content that has yet to be taught. You should expect to see homework that helps students practice a particular skill they have learned or apply skills they have learned to a problem-solving task. Homework will be assigned daily in Grades 3–5 and weekly in Grades K–2. Refer to the following chart to see how long daily math homework should take at each grade level. If you find your child taking 5 minutes or more than the time listed, please contact your child’s teacher.

Grade Level	Approximate Amount of Daily Math Homework
Kindergarten	5 minutes
Grades 1 and 2	10 minutes
Grades 3 and 4	15 minutes
Grade 5	20 minutes

Homework helps teachers understand areas of struggle and gives them information about how to adjust their teaching to meet the needs of the students. A common parent misunderstanding is that teachers want to see homework completed and done correctly. When parents do the homework with (and sometimes for) the child, teachers then cannot see where help is needed. For this reason, we ask parents to play a specific role when it comes to homework. Look at the following chart to see what we expect of our students, parents, and teachers with regard to homework. Please reach out to your child’s teacher if you have specific questions about the roles.

Student, Parent, and Teacher Roles With Homework		
Students	Parents	Teachers
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Know what the assignments are Complete assignments on time Put forth best effort Let the teacher know if they do not understand an assignment or will have difficulty completing it on time 	<p>As best as they can . . .</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Know what the assignments are Provide their child a safe and quiet work space Convey a positive attitude in front of their child about math and school Establish clear homework routines Provide guidance, not answers Watch for signs of frustration and provide breaks Allow their child to hand in an incomplete assignment Help the child write a note to the teacher letting them know exactly what the child does not understand or asking for more time to complete it 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assign high-quality assignments that fall within the school’s policy, differentiating as needed Ensure homework is written in agenda notebooks and/or on the class website State the purpose of the assignment for parents and students Provide clear directions and exemplars, where applicable Clarify what students need to do to demonstrate that the assignment has been completed Review homework in a timely manner and provide feedback Contact parents if homework is not received.