

## Valley View Elementary School Homework Policy

### What is homework?

The focus of homework is to provide independent practice directly related to standards presented in class, prepare for assessments and extend or apply learning. Parental involvement is encouraged to maintain completion, accuracy and neatness of homework product.

Homework includes out-of-class tasks assigned to students as a follow-up or extension of classroom work. There are different types of homework assignments. Practice assignments help to reinforce newly acquired or developing skills. Extension assignments allow students to apply what they have learned in new ways; these assignments may include long-term projects, which may require additional time. Homework may also involve studying for tests or preparing for upcoming classroom activities. Each of these assignments is designed to develop life-long study habits and to help your child get the most out of his or her education.

Teachers make sure that homework assignments are explained clearly, and that students have had necessary classroom instruction to do the work successfully. Students are expected to take home books and other needed supplies. Students are also expected to complete homework assignments and turn them in on time. Accommodations or modifications may be made for differentiation and/or Individualized Educational Plans. Students are held accountable for homework assignments within a reasonable amount of time after excused absences.

Valley View Elementary School has established suggested time limits for homework according to District policy (BP 6154). Children who cannot read independently should be read to for 20 minutes and/or be given an opportunity to look at beginning reading books. The following time limits are suggested as average number of minutes per day. There may be variations from time to time:

Kindergarten	Up to 10 minutes daily
Grades 1-3	10 to 40 minutes daily
Grades 4-6	30 to 60 minutes daily

**In addition to the homework guidelines, students are expected to do a minimum of 20 minutes of reading outside of school per day.**

### How can parents get involved?

Parents are encouraged to support your child's homework efforts in the following ways:

- Become familiar with the classroom procedures of where/how the homework is assigned and organized for each of your children's teachers at the beginning of the school year.
- Provide a consistent specific study area and the necessary materials to complete assignments.
- Establish a specific homework time and monitor after school activities to allow sufficient time for homework completion.
- Praise your child's efforts and express an interest in their assignments.
- If questions arise about the assignments, and your child asks for help, ask him/her questions, or work through an example, rather than providing the answers.
- Check completed assignments and encourage your child to correct mistakes.