



Homework Guidelines



Purpose

Homework contributes toward building responsibility, self-discipline and lifelong learning habits. It is the intention of the Jenkins Middle School staff to assign relevant, challenging and meaningful homework assignments that reinforce classroom learning objectives. Homework should provide students with the opportunity to apply information they have learned, complete unfinished class assignments, and develop independence. Homework grades may be modified based on students' individual needs (i.e. IEP, 504 Plans). Consideration shall be given to quality over quantity.

Homework assignments include:

- Practice exercises to follow classroom instruction.
- Preview assignments to prepare for subsequent lessons.
- Extension assignments to transfer new skills or concepts to new situations.
- Creative activities to integrate many skills toward the production of a response or product.

Time

Actual time required to complete assignments will vary with each student's study habits, academic skills, and selected course load. If your child is spending an inordinate amount of time doing homework, you should contact your child's teachers. Students are encouraged to pursue non-assigned, independent, leisure reading.

Late Work Policies

Students are expected to turn work in on time. Students who turn in late assignments will receive any of the following based upon individual teacher discretion or grade level policy.

- Partial credit – Penalty will not exceed more than 50% of the total points possible.
- Missed reward activity
- Communication with parents

Students who miss homework because of an absence will receive the opportunity to make up missed work. Students are given one calendar day for each day absent to turn in their work. It's the students' responsibility to get work missed due to illness or absence (ex: 1 absent day = 1 day to complete)

Re-take Guidelines:

Students will have the opportunity to re-take assessments by providing evidence to the teacher as to how the student practiced to achieve mastery of the skill. A parent signature must exist on the re-take form. The re-take form will be available on the website and in classrooms for students to access. Timelines and opportunity for re-takes will be clearly communicated by the teacher throughout the year.

Responsibilities of Students:

- ✓ Write down assignments in the "Jenkins Middle School Student Planner."
- ✓ Be sure all assignments are clear; don't be afraid to ask questions if necessary.
- ✓ Set aside a regular time for studying.
- ✓ Find a quiet, well-lit study area.

- ✓ Work on homework independently whenever possible, so that it reflects student ability.
- ✓ Produce quality work.
- ✓ Make sure assignments are done according to the given instructions and completed on time.

Responsibilities of Staff:

- ✓ Teachers' top priority is to teach to mastery of skills. This involves using homework as a way to determine if a student has mastered the emphasized skill or needs more practice.
- ✓ Regularly update Schoolnotes and update Zangle at least weekly. Gradebooks should always be current by the end of work on Wednesday of each week.
- ✓ Assign relevant, challenging and meaningful homework that reinforces classroom learning.
- ✓ Give clear instructions and make sure students understand the purpose.
- ✓ Give feedback and/or correct homework.
- ✓ Involve parents and contact them if a pattern of late or incomplete homework develops.

Responsibilities of Parents:

- ✓ Set a regular, uninterrupted study time each day.
- ✓ Establish a quiet, well-lit study area.
- ✓ Monitor student's organization and daily list of assignments in their agenda.
- ✓ Help student work to find the answer, not just get it done.
- ✓ Be supportive when the student gets frustrated with difficult assignments.
- ✓ Communicate with teachers at the earliest possible opportunity once the child has demonstrated consistent inability to complete homework.
- ✓ Contact the grade level counselor, assistant principal and then the principal if a solution cannot be reached with a teacher regarding homework.

Homework Assistance

It is recommended that students seeking assistance with homework speak and work directly with their teachers as they will be able to recommend strategies improving success on homework. Students should speak directly with teachers to determine which teachers host regular tutoring hours or to arrange individual tutoring sessions. In addition, students may get assistance on homework through the following ways:

Your teacher: Monday – Thursday depending on teacher availability.