



Sunrise Elementary Homework Policy

At Sunrise Elementary, we believe homework to be important for several reasons. Homework:

- Offers opportunities for parental involvement
- Provides more thorough home-school links (i.e. parents gain understanding as to expectations of students and parents learn where their child is in the learning)
- Increases opportunities to practice skills and expand students' thoughts on a subject
- Provides independent student practice
- Enhances the everyday life skills of organization & personal responsibility
- Increases student achievement

While research demonstrates the greatest impact of homework on student achievement occurs in high school, well-planned homework does have a significant impact on student achievement in elementary school. Well-planned homework is most effective when used to: practice familiar skills; prepare students for lessons; or, elaborate on thoughts or information.

Furthermore, when staff assign homework it is essential assignments are graded and treated with the same respect in which they are assigned. To this end, Sunrise staff strives to plan and design homework that is effective in raising the achievement of each student.

Homework Time Approximations:

Sunrise staff understands varied family dynamics and time allotments exist in our community. Therefore, we attempt to provide homework meeting the following time approximations:

Kindergarten: 10 - 15 min.

1st grade: 15 - 20 min.

2nd grade: 20 - 25 min.

3rd grade: 25 - 30 min.

4th grade: 30 - 35 min.

5th grade: 30 - 45 min.

**In addition to these approximate times, students are expected to read *at least 20 minutes each day*. This reading time is especially important on weekends, holidays and over the summer.

Note: If your child is taking considerably more or less time than the approximate times stated above, please contact your child's teacher so the homework can be modified/adjusted accordingly.

Projects & Programs

At times, teachers plan projects for students to work on and/or complete at home. Teachers are committed to offering parents a thorough explanation of these projects and will provide a rubric for students and parents to better understand the project, its focus, and how it is to be graded. The *Excel Math* program is an expected homework assignment for grades 3-5. For all grades, the internet-based program *Study Island* should be a regular part of a student's homework assignment.