

Boulder Elementary School

HOMework

Homework supports students' accountability of their learning, time management, and study skills all of which develops the characteristics of successful learners.

parent Homework Tips

- ★ Ensure that your child is the one putting brainpower into completing their own homework.
- ★ Review their homework with them to see where they might need additional support.
- ★ Help them with time management and on task behavior
- ★ It does not support your child's growth to verify completion when assignments were not completed accurately, with quality, and for the appropriate amount of time.

(Oral Reading) FLUENCY

Kindergarten – Third Graders

There are four areas of focus for the fluency homework for these grades. Each area gradually increases in difficulty, although your child will be assigned their independent reading level. The four areas are letter name, letter sound, segmenting & blending, and reading fluency.

The fluency pages have a repeated reading leveled passage on the front side and daily assignments are copied on the back. The back side activities will allow your child to connect fluency with greater comprehension. As your child moves through the levels, they will have a specific comprehension focus each day and will get progressively more complex.

Timed (when appropriate), repeated readings with feedback are one of the best ways to improve students' reading fluency. The key to making this assignment effective is parent provided specific feedback to your child. Each week's assignment has tips for how parents can make the most of the homework.

Your child will be using this time to focus on oral reading and comprehension, specifically accuracy, phrasing, expression, and rate. These four areas focus on sustained attention and concentration, automatic recognition of most words and word solving skills for unknown words, while keeping an adequate rate with a level of comfort and confidence. Together this supports the goal of developing deep comprehension.

Students will be given a **double-sides fluency sheet each week**. There are **four daily assignments**; students need to **complete ONLY one assignment each night**.

Remember to read and practice the "Parent Tips" each week printed on the page as they will turn this assignment into an invaluable resource for you and your child as they become fluent readers.

Please only complete one assignment per day, even when completing for make-up work.

Monthly Take-Home Project

First – Sixth Graders

Each month students will be asked to complete a project at home that will be shared with the community on the provided due date.

It is essential that the projects be a representation of the students' abilities and efforts. Parents and other family members may complete their own along side the child to share if they desire.

Students must manage their time throughout the month so that they are not cramming the project into one or a few days.

Students will be given the requirements to be kept in their B.E.E. Books. All prep work, ideas, and research that is done throughout the month can be stored behind in their binder.

Students will be given a grading rubric that they should complete and turn in with the project.

After, it will be returned with the teacher's notes and comments as well as a grade for the presentation and report.

READING

It is your child's goal to read at least 15-20 minutes every single day outside of school. If they can do this in addition to reading during school, they will be very successful.

Research has proven that children grow the most as readers when they read books that are not too easy and not too challenging for them. It is our (parents and teachers) job to support children in choosing books that are their "just right" level.

Kindergarten

Each month your child will be given a Reading Log. The directions will vary from month to month however each time they read for the assigned time, they can add to their monthly log.

First through Sixth Graders

An average student who reads at least 20 minutes each night and reads throughout the day at school is expected to finish at least one average-sized chapter on his or her reading level each week. There are 36 weeks in the school year. This means that your child should be able finish one book each week throughout the entire school year. Keep in mind that "grown up" picture books, graphic novels, information texts, poetry anthologies, and biographies are easy to read in less than one week as they are much shorter than chapter books.

Students will be keeping track of how many books that they have read, both in and outside of school throughout the year. **They need to document their reading by completing their Reading Log.**

Individualized Learning Software

Kindergarten – Sixth Graders

Boulder Elementary School has licenses for three individualized learning software programs that supports the students' growth in English Language Arts and Mathematics. **Students will log the time spent on the following computer programs outside of school**, for some students this will be optional, while it will be assigned to others.

ALEKS Path and QuickTables

ALEKS is a web-based math learning system that assesses and works through lessons on various topics at each individual student's leaning level.

QuickTables is ALEKS' fact mastery program, which offers an interactive Student Module with ongoing assessments, learning, review, and visual tracking.

ST Math (JiJi)

Spatial Temporal (ST) Math is a visual math program that builds a deep conceptual understanding of mathematics through rigorous learning and creative problem solving.

The program offers neuroscience-based mathematics instruction with visual animations and game-based learning.

Waterford Early Reading Program

Waterford Early Reading is an educational program that uses a variety of technologies to create personalized instruction through games, songs, stories, and other engaging activities to support children learning to read.

Word Work

Students have Word Work daily that is taught using Words Their Way curriculum. Words Their Way is a teacher-directed, student-centered approach to vocabulary growth and spelling development, whereby students engage in a variety of sound, pattern and meaning activities, sorting pictures and words.

When students begin a new spelling pattern, they will be given a word list and the date of the test. It is their responsibility to be prepared for the spelling test, they may use the monthly Word Work Menus posted on our website that have various activities that they can use to study their words. These activities will not be collected, students are welcome to bring them to school and share with their teachers.

Study Guides

Students may choose to study for an upcoming test as part of their weekly homework assignments when appropriate. First through Sixth Graders will have a weekly ELA test on Fridays.

Quarterly STEAM Projects

Third – Sixth Graders

Each month students will be asked to complete a project at home that will be shared with the community on the provided due date.