

Mountain Elementary Homework Guidelines

This year the Los Alamos Public Schools are implementing new homework guidelines. We believe in the importance of family time, that students should have enough time to play, and in allowing students time to develop a love for reading.

1. Kindergarten through 2nd grade - No Homework

- a. Daily home reading time is recommended in order to build a strong reading foundation. Each child should spend a short amount of time reading aloud or listening to someone read every day. Reading aloud to your child builds an essential foundation for literacy skills and is a wonderful way to spend time as a family.
- b. Occasional home projects may be assigned to enhance classroom instruction but are optional. Some examples are All About Me posters, Me Bag, Turkey in Disguise, Kindergarten Robots, and other similar activities that foster family involvement in school topics.

2. 3rd grade - 4th grade - Minimal Homework

- a. Nightly reading and practice of math facts at home is strongly recommended for building literacy skills and fluency with basic math facts. We hope that as a family you will continue to find time to read together and foster a love for reading. Children this age still enjoy listening to others read!
- b. Occasional home projects will be required such as life cycle posters, book challenges, science fair, etc...
- c. No homework or projects assigned on weekends or over school holidays.

3. 5th grade - 6th grade - Minimal Required Homework

- a. No more than 50 minutes of regular homework on Monday – Thursdays. Homework will be used to give students the opportunity to practice skills taught at school and strengthen understanding. Homework will not introduce new skills.
(If a child is spending more than 50 minutes on homework, a parent can simply write a note on the paper that the time was up. We encourage parents to contact the teacher if they feel like the homework is taking longer than the expected amount of time on a regular basis. The teachers will also contact parents if a child is consistently unable to complete expected homework so that they can develop a plan to help the student and address individual needs)
- b. Some home projects can be expected. Some examples of required home projects: Science Fair, Speech Contest, Geography Bee, Wax Museum, Book Challenges, etc...
- c. No homework or projects assigned on weekends or over school holidays.

We will provide online resources and suggestions for those parents and students who would like more resources for practice at home such as Lexia, Reading Plus, IXL Math, Reflex Math, book lists, etc...