

Homework Calendar Grades 4 to 6

January 2018

Homework - 15 minutes per night. Please aim to work with your child 4 times a week. These homework activities can be adjusted to fit your schedule and can be completed on nights that work best for your family. You can challenge or support your child by adjusting the tasks as needed.

Homework Week of January 8 to 12	Reading and Writing	As we begin a new year, it is also time to reflect on and learn from the previous year. Have your child think about memories and important events from 2017. Ask your child to create a journal entry, a picture collage, a list of words, etc. to represent their past year. Ask them to share their representation with you and talk about their thinking.
	Cursive Writing	Here is a link where you can locate cursive writing templates for each letter: www.kidzone.ws/cursive/ to support the work already taking place in your child's classroom.
	Keyboarding	Keyboarding will help your child communicate throughout his/her life. There are many typing games available. Here is a link to some online games: http://www.learninggamesforkids.com .
	Math	Addition Number Battle Card Game (for 2 players) Materials: Deck of cards, face cards worth ten, Ace worth 1 or 11 (players decide) How to Play: Players split a deck of cards and simultaneously flip over their top two and add the two cards together. The highest sum wins all the cards. If the cards have the same sum, the cards are placed in the center pile. The next hand is played normally and the winner takes all the cards.
	Special Events	January 11th is Sir John A. MacDonald Day. Why is John A. MacDonald, Canada's first Prime Minister, a controversial figure? Here is a link that gives one point of view: http://bit.ly/2Bh3fhP
Homework Week of January 15 to 19	Reading	Describe a picture you create in your mind to help you understand and remember what you have read. Show your children how you remember by making connections between the text and what you already know about the topic.
	Cursive Writing	Your child is expected to use some cursive writing in Grades 4 to 6. Here is a link provided where you can locate templates for each letter: www.kidzone.ws/cursive/
	Keyboarding	Keyboarding will help your child communicate throughout his/her life. There are many typing games available. Here is a link to some online games: http://www.learninggamesforkids.com
	Math	Explore fractions with Satisfraction, a math game found at the following website: http://gregtangmath.com/satisfraction There is a game for identifying fractions, simplifying fractions, and comparing fractions.
	Supporting Exceptional Learners	Visit the website Misunderstood Minds and experience what it might be like for a student with attention deficits to read a short passage and answer questions about it: http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/misunderstoodminds/attention.html
	Special Events	Ideally, New Year's resolutions teach kids how to set and work steadily toward goals. Your child may need some help creating meaningful goals they can stick with. Your child's specific goals will depend on their challenges, abilities and interests. Think also about physical fitness and how important it is for physical and mental health. Help your child make small achievable goals to reach a larger goal. A child may say, 'I want to read a chapter book'. Help your child set smaller goals, such as 'I will read 20 minutes a night with someone.' Offer to support your child with their goal and check in with them as to their progress.

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Homework Week of January 22 to 26	Reading	Words in English have diverse origins and meanings. Try this word game of 'Go Fish' You will need: Index cards, pencil, Dictionary or Thesaurus. 1. Work with your child to pull together a list of ten challenging vocabulary words. 2. Write each word on one side of an index card with the definition. 3. Now, research with your child each word's language origin and write it on one side of an index card. 4. Using a Thesaurus or Dictionary, find a synonym for every word. Do the same for antonyms. 5. You should now have a total of 40 cards. Time to play fish! Whoever gets the most appropriate matches wins.
	Cursive Writing	Your child is expected to use some cursive writing at this stage. Here is a link provided where you can locate templates for each letter: www.kidzone.ws/cursive/ to support the work already place in your child's classroom.
	Keyboarding	Keyboarding will help your child communicate throughout his/her life. There are many typing games available. Here is a link to some online games: http://www.learninggamesforkids.com .
	Math	Representation Match (fractions) It's just like playing Memory! Continue to build your understanding of fractions by playing one of the variations of the Representation Match Fractions game. The choices include pictorial representations, numerical representations, equivalent fractions, as well as comparing and representing fractions.
	Special Events	January is International Creativity Month. Document any naturally occurring faces you find on your travels. Look for them in plumbing parts, fixtures (door hooks), in nature (trees), in human-made objects, in the clouds, etc. Sketch your found faces.
Homework Week of January 29 to February 2	Reading	Ask your child to summarize a book or chapter they've read in a Tweet (280 characters). They will have to identify the most important events and details in the story and choose their words carefully. A summary of Harry Potter might read: Harry's folks die. He doesn't know he's a wizard. His family is mean to him. He goes to Hogwarts and makes friends. They defeat Voldemort together but he'll probably be back (it's only book one). Gryffindor wins the house cup!
	Cursive Writing	Your child is expected to use some cursive writing at this stage. Here is a link provided where you can locate templates for each letter www.kidzone.ws/cursive/ .
	Keyboarding	Keyboarding will help your child communicate throughout his/her life. There are many typing games available. Here is a link to some online games http://www.learninggamesforkids.com
	Math	Prime Radicals: Pentominoes This app contains a series of pentomino puzzle games. Each pentomino piece is a shape that is a combination of 5 small squares. Pentomino puzzles allow your child to build their spatial reasoning skills as they reflect (flip), rotate (turn) and translate (slide) the pieces.
	Special Events	January is International Creativity Month. Use a sheet of paper as a musical instrument. Pass it back and forth between you and your child. Each time, make a different sound (folding, tapping, throwing, tearing). At first it is easy but as the paper continues to be passed and all the obvious sounds have been used, it becomes more difficult. Try the same exercise with other objects and/or with musical instruments that you have at home.