

# Miss Itsell's Homework Philosophy

Homework will be sent home every night (Monday-Thursday). The homework is meant to be a vehicle of discussion for you and your child to discuss what we are learning in school. The assignments are generally short and easy. They are not intended to be long. They are intended to be "skill-and-drill" sheets.

Homework includes **nightly reading**, practicing weekly **spelling** words, **language review** and a **math review sheet**. The **math review sheet** is to be returned to school **every day**. The **language review** portion is not be turned in until Friday morning. We will not have language the first week of homework.

My philosophy regarding homework is as follows: Homework is your child's responsibility. That is, you can (and should) help them with it but they should be in charge of bringing it back to school the next day. I expect that homework will be returned on time, however I understand that there are sometimes extenuating circumstances. I would prefer if your child was the one to tell me why he or she could not do his or her homework as opposed to a note from you. I feel this encourages responsibility and independence. Again, I am very understanding when unexpected circumstances "pop-up".

If you ever feel like your child needs extra homework review pages, I encourage filling that need with 10 minutes of one on one time with your child. Your children are already working so hard for me at school and current research shows that extra homework has a negative impact on learning. I also want them to have the time to be kids! You can spend this special time together any way you chose! Some educational ideas, are reading aloud to them (this helps with reading expression) and practicing math facts in a fun way. I'm also greatly aware of how "tech savy" our kiddos are today. Feel free to add educational apps to your smart phones, i-pads, kindles, etc. If our children are going to be on these devices, why not make it productive for their developing brains! ☺ Throughout the year, I will try to send home any new apps I find. Please feel free to share any you find as well! I'm always looking for good ones that keep the students interest and promote their learning.

Please contact me at any time with questions or concerns. Thanks for your support at home!

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