

Homework 101

2012-2013

Homework Calendars
and
Parent Resources

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Why Use monthly homework calendars?

1. Save Time

Teachers have enough on their plates! You can use these monthly calendars to save you time, and spend your time on more valuable things such as reviewing student progress, lesson planning, and classroom organization.

2. Save Paper

If your school is fairly limited in this area, this will be a huge plus for you! Even if you have a gazillion copies available to you, why not show Mother Earth some love?!?

2. Meaningful/Hands-On Activities

The activities included on each calendar are meaningful and relevant. They are developmentally appropriate for first grade learners! If there is a specific skill or theme that is missing that you'd like

to see, you can e-mail me and I'll customize it for you! Most of the activities included [about 75%] take only 10-15 minutes to complete, however they require students to discuss, survey, share, or interview family members or friends. This makes them more interactive. What six or seven year old wants to sit and do worksheet after worksheet every night for homework? Yes, there are some skills and activities which are "kill and drill," but everything doesn't have to be that way. Wouldn't it be nice if students actually enjoyed homework?!?

2. Get Feedback from Parents & Increase Parent Involvement

Also the calendar pages have a designated place for parents to leave feedback. This is a wonderful way to involve parents and encourage them to share information.

5. More Efficient!

Once you start using a monthly calendar layout, you'll fall in love with it! It is so easy, simple, and efficient!

Thank you so much for your purchase!
I hope you enjoy using it. If you find that
you would like me to customize or
change something within the packet, you
can email me:
eduperry.com@gmail.com.

Please allow me at least one week to
make changes and get the pdf file back
to you.

This product is for a single teacher only.
If you would like to use it within more
than one classroom setting, please
purchase the multiple license product.

Thanks again!
Brooke





Dear Parent,

First grade is a wonderful time of growth within the lives of young learners. It is a time where reading, writing, math, social skills, and problem solving skills begin to develop tremendously!

During the school day we will complete a wide variety of activities across each curriculum area. This year your child will also receive a monthly homework calendar to sharpen and review activities and skills that have been covered in class. Each activity will take approximately 10-15 minutes. Many of the activities involve discussion with family members or friends. These activities have been designed with first grade students in mind.

You will receive a calendar at the beginning of each month. After you complete the activity with your child, please sign your initials inside the box near the date. At the end of the month, please return your child's homework calendar with any feedback or observations that you would like to share. I look forward to seeing lots of growth and progress throughout the school year.

Thank you for all that you do to support
your child's education!

10 ways to help your child have a more productive HOMEWORK time

1. **Be organized**-Keep homework materials in a pencil box or bag nearby so that everything is in place and ready to go!
2. **Create a "study spot"**-Choose a quiet area with limited distractions. This will help your student stay focused!
3. **Provide Positive Feedback**-Words of encouragement and affirmation can go a long way!
4. **Encourage creativity and imagination**-Allow your child to think outside the box!
5. **Ask questions and "talk it out"**-When your child gets an answer, whether it's right or wrong, ask them to tell you how they got the answer. Listen to them carefully, and if it's the wrong answer you can pinpoint where they need additional support.
6. **Observe carefully**-Provide your child's teacher with information about any areas where your child consistently has difficulty. This may be critical in providing early intervention.
7. **Consider multiple ways to reach an answer**-Remember that in many cases, there are several ways to reach one correct answer. It's great for your child to recognize this and understand that they can solve problems in many different ways.
8. **Stay calm**-If you or your child become frustrated, take a break. It's o.k. to stop working then come back to the activity.
9. **Break up your time**-Try completing the homework in two short sessions instead of a large chunk of time. This will benefit your child's attention span and give their brain a break!
10. **Celebrate!**-As your child works hard and does their best, celebrate with them! A hug, high five, or a special reward can motivate them to continue doing their best!

Implementing Monthly Calendars

1. Send the introduction letter and homework tips page home.
2. Begin sending monthly calendars in September.
2. Check feedback pages at the end of each month.
3. Keep track of monthly progress by filing each page in a student portfolio or keep a student checklist with completion records.
5. I like to use a separate weekly page for spelling/word wall words since this page goes home at the beginning of each week. I also used this as a weekly newsletter with class information and upcoming events. This means that for the entire month I have to print only 5 pages for each student [a weekly spelling/word wall/newsletter page-copied front and back each week (4) and one monthly homework calendar-copied front and back (1)]

September Homework Calendar

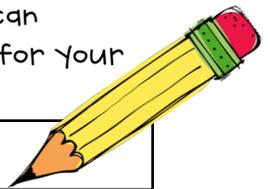


Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
<p>3</p> <p>Labor Day!</p>	<p>4</p> <p>write the word "September." Make as many new words as you can using those letters. Can you put the words in abc order.</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Read it. Draw it. solve it. There are 5 apples hanging on the tree and 2 on the ground. How many apples are there in all?</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Draw a picture of your teacher. write at least 2 sentences about him or her. Don't forget to start with capital letters, use spacing, and write an end mark.</p>
<p>10</p> <p>write your first and last name. How many of the letters are vowels? How many are consonants? write a number sentence to match how many there are in all.</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Read it. Draw it. solve it. There are 4 children on the bus. 6 more children got on the bus. How many children are on the bus altogether?</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Draw a picture of one of your friends. write at least 2 sentences that tell about him or her. Don't forget to start with a capital letter, use spacing, and write an end mark.</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Think about the rules at your school. write down one rule and tell a family member why that rule is very important.</p>
<p>17</p> <p>Practice counting from 1-100. Can you count by 5's to 100? Can you count by 10's to 100? Also try counting by 2's!</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Fall is coming soon. Make a list of things that you can do in fall.</p>	<p>19</p> <p>what job would you like to have when you grow up? write a sentence that tells why that job is important. Add a detailed, matching illustration.</p>	<p>20</p> <p>write down the names of everyone in your family. Count the letters in each person's name. which person has the shortest name? Longest?</p>

24 Read it. Draw it. Solve it. My friend had 8 apples. He gave 3 of them away. How many does he have left?	25 How many new words can you make with the name "Johnny Appleseed?"	26 Today is Johnny Appleseed's Birthday. Make a list of things that come from apples. Which one is your favorite?	27 Write the word fall. Think of as many words as you can that rhyme with "fall." Can you put them in abc order?
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Dear Parents,

Please feel free to write down comments as you complete the homework with your child. You may share information about what your child enjoyed, or you can provide insight about any activities which were challenging or frustrating for your child. Your feedback is a valuable tool!



Date	Comment

Congratulations! You have successfully completed your September homework calendar. Please return it to your teacher.
Keep up the fabulous work!





October Homework Calendar

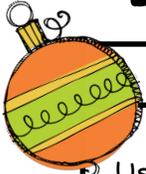


Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
<p>1</p> <p>Write the word October on a piece of paper. How many letters are vowels? How many are consonants? Write a number sentence to match.</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Tell your family members what a "noun" is. Make a list of 10 nouns that are in your house.</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Draw a map of the school playground. Label the equipment. Tell a family member how to get from one place to another using your map.</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Write the word "October" on a piece of paper. How many new words can you create? Challenge- Put the new words in abc order.</p>
<p>8</p> <p>No Homework!</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Tell your family members what a "verb" is. Make a list of your favorite verbs. Draw a picture of yourself completing one of the actions.</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Fire safety is very important. Make a sign with a helpful safety tip. Be sure to include a detailed illustration.</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Read it. Draw it. Solve it. Eight crows landed on a scarecrow. Four of them flew away. How many are left? Make sure you write the number sentence that matches the problem.</p>
<p>15</p> <p>Read it. Draw it. Solve it. The farmer picked 6 pumpkins on Monday and 3 pumpkins on Tuesday. How many more pumpkins did he pick Monday?</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Find a picture in a magazine. Write a story about what is happening. Include at least 3 sentences with correct capitalization, spacing, and punctuation.</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Practice counting by 2's, 5's, and 10's all the way to 100. Which one is your favorite? Challenge-Can you count by 3's to 99?</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Find two leaves outside. Tell how they are alike and how they are different. Challenge-Record your answers in a venn diagram.</p>
<p>22</p> <p>Write down everyone's age in your family. Put the numbers in order from greatest to least. How many of the numbers are odd? How many are even?</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Read it. Draw it. Solve it. Grandmother made an apple pie, and it had 10 slices. After dinner there were only 2 slices left. How many pieces of pie did the family eat?</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Draw a picture of a pumpkin patch. Use your 5 senses to list 5 adjectives that describe it. Challenge-Write a story about visiting a pumpkin patch.</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Write the words "pumpkin" and "patch" on a piece of paper. Cut apart the letters. Make new words with the letters.</p>

November Homework Calendar

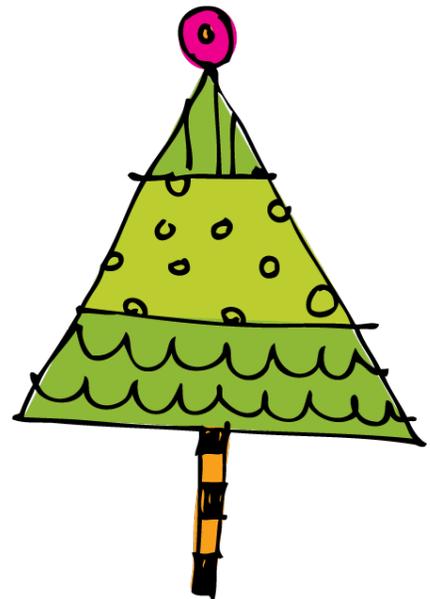
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
		<p>1</p> <p>Draw a picture of your favorite roller coaster or playground equipment. Write a sentence that describes how it moves.</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Write the word "election." How many new words can you make with the letters? Write the new words in abc order.</p>
<p>5</p> <p>Let's Vote on it! Take a family vote. What is each person's favorite Thanksgiving dish (turkey, dressing, vegetables, or rolls)? Use tally marks to record the information.</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Write the word "Thanksgiving." How many new words can you make? Write the new words in abc order.</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Make a list of 10 things that you're thankful for.</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Read it. Draw it. Solve it. Farmer Brown had 10 turkeys, but 4 of them escaped from the farm. How many does he have left?</p>
<p>12</p> <p>Read it. Draw it. Solve it. If you eat 2 pieces of turkey, 2 rolls, 1 piece of corn on the cob, and 1 slice of pie on Thanksgiving Day, how many items will you eat in all?</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Make a "Happy Thanksgiving" card for a friend or family member. Write a special message inside.</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Make a growing pattern with Thanksgiving pictures. Choose foods that you like to eat such as turkey, pie, vegetables, or rolls.</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Make a list of your top 5 favorite Thanksgiving foods. Which one is your favorite? Write 3 sentences that describe how it looks, tastes, and smells.</p>
<p>26</p> <p>Write the word "November." How many new words can you make? Write the new words in abc order.</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Think about the temperature for today. Write 3 sentences to describe what you wore and how the weather felt. What is your prediction for the weather in December?</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Read it. Draw it. Solve it. There were 5 squirrels running through the field. Each of them collected 4 acorns. How many acorns did they have altogether?</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Think about the numbers in the fact family of "4, 6, and 10." Write down the related addition and subtraction facts.</p>

December Homework Calendar



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
<p>3</p> <p>Use tens and ones to represent these numbers.</p> <p>45 89 21 7 12</p> <p>Put the numbers in order from least to greatest.</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Read it. Draw it. Solve it.</p> <p>My mom baked 12 chocolate chip cookies and 8 sugar cookies. How many more chocolate chip cookies did she bake?</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Survey at least 5 people about hot cocoa. Ask "Do you like your cocoa with or without marshmallows?" Use tally marks to record the information.</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Write down the age of each of your family members. How many tens and ones are in each number?</p>
<p>10</p> <p>What is the best gift you have ever received? Write at least 3 sentences that describe the gift.</p>	<p>11</p> <p>What's the missing fact in this family?</p> <p>$4+8=12$ $8+4=12$ $12-4=8$?</p> <p>Write the facts that are in this family: 3, 6, 9</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Read it. Draw it. Solve it.</p> <p>There were 12 candy canes in the box. We ate 6 of them. How many are left?</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Where do you like to shop? Make a list of 3 stores that you like. Choose your favorite one, and write a sentence that tells what you usually buy at that store.</p>
<p>17</p> <p>Write the word "<u>December</u>" on a piece of paper. How many new words can you make?</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Read it. Draw it. Solve it.</p> <p>Mrs. Claus baked 10 sugar cookies, 2 pies, and 6 muffins for the elves. How many items did she bake in all?</p>	<p>19</p> <p>How many days are left until 2013? With a family member, take a look at a calendar to count and find out! Show the number with tens and ones.</p>	<p>20</p> <p>No homework today!</p>

Congratulations!
 You have successfully completed your
 December homework calendar.
 Please return it to your teacher.
 Have a safe and happy holiday!



January Homework Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
	<p>1</p> <p>Tell your family about one of your goals for the new year. Choose one goal for school and one for home, and write them down.</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Make a list of 5 fun things to do during the winter time. Which one is your favorite?</p>	<p>3</p> <p>What's the pattern? It snowed 5 inches on Monday, 10 inches on Tuesday, and 15 inches on Wednesday. How many inches will it snow on Friday?</p>
<p>7</p> <p>Find a family photo at your house. Write a story about the family members or friends who are in the picture.</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Read it. Draw it. Solve it. The snowman has one brown hat, two blueberry eyes, one carrot nose, one scarf, and six colorful buttons. How many pieces does he have in all?</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Tell how you stay warm on a cold, winter day. Write at least 4 sentences using time order words {first, next, then, last}.</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Take a survey. Ask your family if they think it will snow this winter. Use tally marks to record the information.</p>
<p>14</p> <p>Make a list of adjectives (describing words) for hot cocoa. Think about your five senses as you describe how it looks, feels, tastes, smells, and sounds.</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Find a picture in a magazine. Write a story about what is happening. Include at least 3 sentences with correct capitalization, spacing, and punctuation.</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Draw a picture of a snowman. Label each part (hat, eyes, scarf, nose, buttons, etc).</p>	<p>17</p> <p>No Homework!</p>
<p>21</p> <p>Happy Martin Luther King Jr. Day!</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Would you rather build a snowman or have a snowball fight. Write a story about the one you like best.</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Read it. Draw it. Solve it. If you make 12 giant snowballs and 8 tiny snowballs, how many snowballs will you have in all?</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Practice your math facts with flashcards or on the computer. You can visit: playkidsgames.com</p>

28	29	30	
Write a story about a fun day in the snow with at least 4 sentences. Use your imagination. Tell what you would do if you could play in the snow all day long.	Make a list of adjectives (describing words) for snow. Think about your five senses as you describe how it looks, feels, tastes, smells, and sounds.	Read it. Draw it. Solve it. I threw 7 snowballs at my mom and 8 snowballs at my dad. How many did I throw in all?	

Dear Parents,

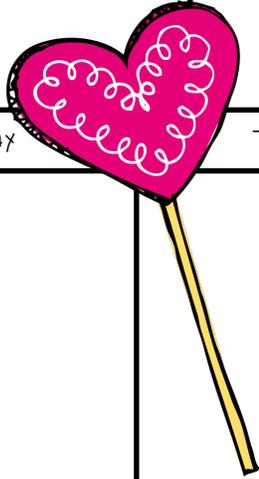
Please feel free to write down comments as you complete the homework with your child. You may share information about what your child enjoyed, or you can provide insight about any activities which were challenging or frustrating for your child. Your feedback is a valuable tool!

Date	Comment

Congratulations!
 You have successfully completed your
 January homework calendar.
 Please return it to your teacher.
 Have a safe and happy holiday!



February Homework Calendar



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
			1 Write the word "groundhog" on a piece of paper. How many new words can you make? Put the new words in abc order.
4 Show two different ways to make \$.62 using quarters, dimes, nickels, and pennies.	5 Think about the weather today and the clouds that you saw in the sky. Tell your family members about one kind of cloud that you've learned about. Draw a picture to show them what it looks like.	6 Read it. Draw it. Solve it. If you have 6 dimes, 3 nickels, and 4 pennies in your piggy bank, what is the total value of your coins? Could you buy something that costs \$.75?	7 Sort the numbers into two groups- odd or even. 23, 19, 44, 100, 97, 82, 38, 7, 59, 60, 2, 91, 28
11 Make a valentine card for someone you love or appreciate!	12 Read it. Draw it. Solve it. There are 6 pieces of chocolate in each box. If you need 24 pieces, how many boxes of chocolate would you buy?	13 Read it. Draw it. Solve it. Each cookie pan can hold 12 cookies. If you have 4 pans, how many cookies can you bake at once?	14 Happy Valentine's Day!
18 Happy President's Day!	19 What is your favorite kind of weather? Write at least 3 sentences that tell about why this type of weather is your favorite. Be sure to use adjectives (describing words).	20 It's Dental Health Month. Tell how to take care of your teeth using at least 3 sentences.	21 The first day of spring is March 20th. Look at a calendar to see how many more days are left until spring arrives. Is the number odd or even?

25	26	27	28
It's National Heart Awareness Month. Make a list of 5 ways to keep your heart strong and healthy.	Read it. Draw it. Solve it. There are 20 cookies in a package. Can 3 friends share them fairly?	Make a list of 10 people, things, or places that you love.	Tell your family at least three things that you learned about George Washington or Abe Lincoln.

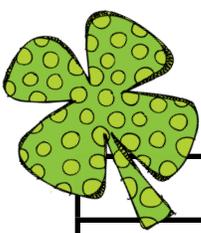
Dear Parents,

Please feel free to write down comments as you complete the homework with your child. You may share information about what your child enjoyed, or you can provide insight about any activities which were challenging or frustrating for your child. Your feedback is a valuable tool!

Date	Comment



Congratulations! You have successfully completed your February homework calendar. Please return it to your teacher. You are awesome!



March Homework Calendar

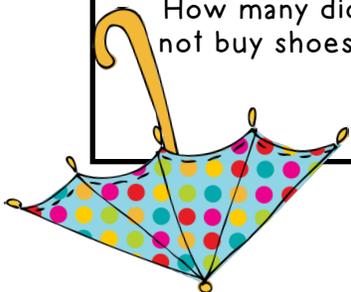
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
4 How many days are left until spring break? Use a calendar to find today's date and help you count down!	5 Read it. Draw it. Solve it. Six birds have built their nests. Four of the birds laid three eggs each and two of the birds laid two eggs each. How many eggs are there in all?	6 If it is 7:30 and your favorite t.v. show lasts 1 hour, what time will it be over? Draw what time it will be on a digital and analog clock.	7 Make a list of things that are green. Can you write 10? How about 20? <u>Challenge:</u> put them in alphabetical order.
18 Record 5 things that you did during spring break. Choose your favorite activity, and write at least 3 sentences about it.	19 Write at least 5 sentences about your favorite one. What is your favorite dessert? Write 10 adjectives (describing words) about how it looks, tastes, smells, feels, and sounds.	20 Spring is finally here! Make a list of 5 things to do on a nice, spring day.	21 Make a list of living and non-living things that are in the forest. <u>Challenge:</u> Choose one plant and one animal from the list. Make a venn diagram to compare them.
25 Read it. Draw it. Solve it. Joy's plant measured 3 inches tall, but one week later it was 8 inches. How many inches did her plant grow in one week? If it grows the same amount over the next two weeks, how tall will her plant be?	26 Write about your favorite forest animal. Describe what it looks like and how it protects itself. What makes the animal unique?	27 Write a story about a very windy day or flying a kite. Draw a picture to match the beginning, middle, and end.	28 Review these math facts: 9+3=____ 4+8=____ 2+7=____ 6+7=____ 8+4=____ 7+8=____ 5+3=____ 4+4=____ 4+7=____ 9+1=____ 1+8=____ 9+2=____ 6+2=____ 3+5=____

Congratulations! You have successfully completed your March homework calendar. Please return it to your teacher. Keep up the super work!



April Homework Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
1 After reading a book to a family member, practice retelling the beginning, middle, and end of a story to a family member.	2 Practice your math facts using flashcards or on your computer.	3 What is your favorite animal? Write at least 3 sentences that describe where the animal lives, what it eats, and what makes it unique.	4 What's the pattern? If it rained 4 inches on Monday and 8 inches on Tuesday, how many inches would it rain on Thursday if the same pattern continued.
8 Practice your math facts using flashcards or on your computer.	9 It rained 3 inches on Wednesday and 6 inches on Friday, what is the total number of inches for both days?	10 What do you like to do on rainy days. Make a list of 5 things that you can do {inside or outside.}	11 Read a literary {fictional} book of your choice. Retell the story including the characters, setting, the problem and the solution.
15 Read it. Draw it. Solve it. If there were 4 monkeys, 2 bears, 3 giraffes, 5 hippos, and 2 flamingoes at the zoo. How many animals were there in all?	16 Take a survey with at least 4 family members or friends. Ask "Do you like rainy days?" Record the information with tally marks.	17 Write the word "umbrella." How many new words can you make? Write the new words in abc order.	18 Read a literary {fictional} book of your choice. Describe the main character(s) and tell about the main events of the story.
22 Read it. Draw it. Solve it. 7 friends went to the store. Two of them bought new shoes. How many did not buy shoes?	23 Read a literary {fictional} book of your choice. Retell the story including the characters, setting, the problem and the solution.	24 Practice your math facts using flashcards or on your computer.	25 After reading a book to a family member, practice retelling the beginning, middle, and end of a story to a family member.



<p>29</p> <p>Read a literary {fictional} book of your choice. Describe the main character(s) and tell about the main events of the story.</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Take a survey with at least 4 family members or friends. Ask "Are you afraid of thunderstorms?" Record the information with tally marks.</p>		
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Congratulations! You have successfully completed your April homework calendar.
Please return it to your teacher.
Keep up the fabulous work!



May Homework Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
	1 Write a "thank you" letter to your teacher. Share 3 things that you will always remember about first grade!	2 Use a calendar to count how many days of school are left? Show the number using tens and ones. Is it odd or even?	3 Read it. Draw it. Solve it. There were 12 people at the pool party. 7 of them were boys. How many of them were girls?
6 What are your plans for this summer? Make a list of 5 things that you would like to do.	7 Read it. Draw it. Solve it. There were 13 fish swimming in the ocean. 8 of them were clownfish. How many were puffer fish?	8 What is your favorite way to "beat the heat" during the hot summer days? Write 2 sentences that tell about it.	9 Show the number 16 in as many ways as you can [tally marks, number sentences, tens and ones, coins. . .]
13 Read it. Draw it. Solve it. What do you think 2nd grade will be like? Write 2 questions about life in 2nd grade.	14 What did you like about 1st grade? Write one sentence about your favorite part of first grade.	15 Last homework for 1st grade. . . What is your favorite subject? Write one sentence that tells why.	16 No more homework this year!

