



Kenmore Town of Tonawanda U.F.S.D Elementary K-4 Home Practice Guidelines *Revised August 21, 2024*

In Ken-Ton we want to adopt the most current practice around home practice activities. We recognize that research findings around traditional homework do not show a significant impact on student learning at the elementary level. While at the same time, we do recognize that home practice has the potential to be an important communication tool to help our families become more familiar with what our students are learning. Our teachers encourage students to practice and explore activities that reinforce their learning while empowering families to partner with teachers to guide the learning process.

In Ken-Ton, we believe:

- Home practice is related to the curriculum of the school.
- Home practice is differentiated to meet the needs of students.
- Home practice is intended to be completed by students independently with parental encouragement.
- Home practice is used to gather information about and provide feedback to students about their learning.
- While not assigned a grade, home practice is designed to enhance learning by affording additional independent practice of skills learned.

What is the purpose of home practice for elementary mathematics?

- Practice previously learned concepts and skills
- Provide opportunities for just right practice
- Build independence, responsibility and confidence
- Partner with families in mathematics development

What is the purpose of home practice for elementary literacy?

- Develop a feeling of accomplishment
- Build independence, responsibility and confidence
- Practice literacy skills at home
- Foster a love of reading
- Partner with families in literacy development

What might home practice for mathematics look like?

- Eureka Math² Practice (*Apply Book*)
- MathFactLab
- Math Games (sent home)
- Teacher Chosen / Designed Worksheets
- Independent Projects

What might home practice for literacy look like?

- Reading (could be books sent home each night or books at home)
 - Independent, with an adult, sibling, etc.
 - Partner reading
 - Adult/family read aloud
- Literacy Pro, W.O.R.D, F.I.R.S.T (Scholastic)
- Writing (journals, etc.)
- Phonics activities (sorts, rhyming, word building, etc.)
- Word Study activities (vocabulary, sorts, spelling, etc.)

Frequency & Duration

For those families interested in engaging children in home practice activities, the below times are suggested and may be used as a guide. In Ken-Ton, home practice should be a positive experience and should be kept within the time allocations listed below. Practice should stop if your child is exhibiting signs of frustration. We also encourage home practice times to be flexible and may be combined or completed on weekends to allow children the opportunities to continue to participate in extracurricular and family activities.

- Kindergarten:** 5-10 min (up to 3x per week)
- Grades 1-2:** 10-15 min (up to 3x per week)
- Grades 3-4:** 15-20 min (up to 3x per week)

- Kindergarten:** 10-20 min (5x per week with choice of days)
- Grade 1:** 15-25 min (5x per week with choice of days)
- Grade 2:** 20-30 min (5x per week with choice of days)
- Grade 3:** 25-35 min (5x per week with choice of days)
- Grade 4:** 30-40 min (5x per week with choice of days)