

Dolphin Splash

Winter 2019 Edition

Lake Street Elementary

Crown Point, IN

Is Homework Good for Students?



Homework may not be all it's cracked up to be.

By: Kaitlyn Nelson

Have you ever wondered if homework helps improve grades? Does it make you want to look it up and find out for yourself? If the answer is yes, this article is for you. Some people may argue the point that homework is good, but if you ask me, it is not. I have several different reasons for this. When students have homework, it can cause stress and put students under pressure. It is no wonder so many kids end up turning to bad habits to escape their stressful lives.

When school days are hard and long, all a person wants to do is go home and relax. They can't even do that with homework to do! When they stay up late to finish homework after having free time right away, they most likely end up lacking sleep because of this.

Homework can cause health issues, too. When students have too much homework, they can get off track and not fully understand what they are working on
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Students Would like New Equipment for School!

By: Abby Gilbert and Myah Buckmaster

Have you ever thought that our school needs more equipment? Have you wanted more supplies?

We are Abby and Myah and we had a few thoughts about some things that might be useful. We think that we need water fountains outside. We think this because when people are playing outside and they are tired, especially in warm weather, the best thing to help cool you down is a drink of water.

Another reason is all those people playing sports, they are probably tired or out of breath.

Have you ever thought about vending machines in our school?

Have you ever craved an on-the-go snack? We think that vending machines would be a great addition to our school! If you agree, keep reading. From our experience, we've all gotten hungry in class especially when we've forgotten our snack. It would be great to excuse yourself from class, and slip a few loose quarters into the vending machine and grab a snack. Also, if you're late for school, before class you can stop by the vending machine and grab some breakfast!

This is why we think that we should have new appliances for our school. Do you agree that we should have these things?



Abby and Myah imagine machines such as these in our hallways.



Are Pigs Good Pets?

By: Ava Johnson

Have you ever thought that a pig would make a splendid pet? Read this and it might change your mind about owning one. Firstly, Pigs consume lots of water and food. The amount of food pigs eat can range from 6 to 8 pounds in just a single day. Pigs also drink lots of water. A pig will usually drink from 17 to 25 liters of water a day.

If you decide to get a pig, you should consider that they are very messy animals. Most people know that pigs love mud and it's no different for dirt. If you decide to buy a bag of dirt, make sure it's out of reach because if your pig gets to it, it will not end well... Pigs also love digging. Are they looking for treasure?

If you decide that you want to bring your pig inside that is a bad idea because pigs will most definitely destroy your pillows and furniture. If you are wondering why do pigs like to kill all of your wonderful objects, it's more than likely because they enjoy the ripping sound of your objects. Pigs are also big hoarders and they collect various things like rugs and other fabrics.

An Interesting Perspective on Thanksgiving

By: Sophia Vorwald

On Thanksgiving, what do you do? On Thanksgiving in my family, we eat delicious food and give thanks. But we especially give thanks to the turkey because it's always delicious. On Thanksgiving, I think of my family all of the time and how lucky I am to have a great family.

But have you thought about what the turkey goes through? First it has to be caught. Second, it has to die, sadly. Last, you cook the turkey and eat it for Thanksgiving dinner. We should also consider what that poor little turkey goes through.

I know Thanksgiving has past but around the year we should still be thankful. We should be thankful to have a home, to have food and to have families that we can count on.



Be thankful for the things you have!

CONTINUED FROM Is Homework Good for You?

This can cause students to fall behind in learning and can damage their bodies. When students are under pressure, this can cause stress, and

unresolved stress can lead to health problems as well. Some effects of too much homework are weight loss, lack of sleep, stress, headaches, stomach pain, and exhaustion.

So, in closing, let's hurry up and start giving students less homework or even better, none at all.

Opinion: Dogs Vs. Cats

By Ceilla Mae Querimit, the coolest kid in the school

There are *only* two types of people in the world...Either you're a cat or dog PURRson. If you're not one of them, you aren't human, or have no soul. But...which one's better? Get ready to start arguing with everyone you see who likes the other one better!

First of all, if you're allergic to one of them, you kinda have to deal with the other one. Being honest, I'm more of a cat PURRson, so I'll try to PURRsuaDE you to like cats more. First dogs, (ew) they are *pretty* big, well, some breeds. They shed a *lot*, I mean A LOT. I don't even have one, but I can feel it. The fur will haunt you in your sleep! They cost a lot of money on toys, food, brushes, and like things to "make taking care of dogs easy." Like automatic feeders, special combs and whatever you waste money on for your dogs.

I guess some things that are good is that... you can comfort each other? If you're sad, they might know. But, if you want to travel...you're gonna have to arrange some stuff just for your dog, and you didn't even start packing! Comments from a Dog Lover: "I think dogs are the best animals because they are actually nice and not annoying unlike cat". Ow *sniffle* that was mean. Oh, but you are wrong, Claire (she was the one I interviewed, so thanks!) Cats aren't *that* annoying...Oh yeah and one more thing, since they (the dogs) live pretty long, you'll get attached and when they uh...go on without you, you'll miss them. So there are the 'Pros & Con' on dogs. Cat time! (This is gonna be easy).

I'm just gonna put out the quick and sweet con on cats...NONE! Tell me one reasonable con of a cat! *whisper* Huh? *They don't care about you* oh yea...but they do, you just don't really care for them. Ok so pee, poop, hair, that stuff. Yea, not that of a biggie, just take care of that. You just need the right equipment. They'll get you to start FEEline good. Now for the pros. THEY CAN LOWER THE CHANCE OF HEART DISEASE!!

I was reading another article (<https://www.goodnet.org/articles/7-scientifically-proven-health-benefits-being-cat-owner>) and it explains 7 things, (that are scientifically proven!) and one of them is that cats can lower the risk of having a heart attack or strokes by around 30%! The other info is pretty cool, so go check out the website! *Comments From a Cat PURRson* "Oh, hi! I love cats!! There is nothin' wrong with em"! I hate dogs, too. They're so...ew! I hate them!" Well, I agree very much with myself! Before we end this, here is a link to some PURRfect cat puns! ([The Purr-fect List of Cat Vocabulary. We're Not Kitten Around ...](#)) Anyways, both of them are great pets, but it all comes up to you... DOGS OR CATS?!?!?!?!?!?!?!?!?!?!?

*Cats, duh

Opposing Opinion by: Claire Davis

Are you an animal person? Have you ever pondered the question of which is better: dogs or cats? "First of all, I think dogs are nice and very loud animals. Dogs also understand when a person is sad." I said to Ceilla.

"On the other hand, cats don't even care if you are sad." I mentioned to Ceilla. "Cats are pure evil in my opinion, and are very stubborn. If you are sad, the CAT will need extra attention!" I said, as I was trying to persuade Ceilla to like dogs more than cats. "Can you believe them!?" I said in a louder voice back to Ceilla.

I didn't say this to Ceilla, but to all the readers who are reading this I just wanted to say that cats are devilish creatures and I recommend that you stay as far away from cats as possible, because eventually your cat will be biting you in your sleep!

"I disagree! I am a cat person and I think dogs shouldn't even exist!" Ceilla said. "Well Ceilla, I think cats shouldn't exist. You know, soon enough your cat will be talking behind your back to his or her little cat friends! You know, I bet your cat might have a secret life when you leave the house. Have you ever noticed the mischievous grin cats give you!? I bet when you leave the house, your cat gets on the computer and face chats with his or her friends. I know that is a funny thought, but it does make a little sense," I said.

"Well Claire here is MY opinion about dogs!" Ceilla shot back, mad at me for not liking cats. "I think dogs are useless. Why do we even need them? Do you even know what a Chihuahua can do to you? They are literal monsters!" Ceilla yelled to my face. "Also, dogs shed too much, they drool a lot, and of course, cost a lot of money to buy and take care of." So now it is up to you to decide... which is the better pet? Dogs or Cats?

Dogs, Duh!



A battle of the ages: which pet is superior? Cat or Dog?



Poll your friends to find out which pet wins!

Who is Your Godly Parent?

By: Madelyn Jefferson

Did you know that in Greek mythology, there are many gods? Based on the Percy Jackson books by Rick Riordan, the children of Greek Gods are called half-bloods. You can find out which god could be your parent! Just see which god is like you!

Here are some of the major gods: First off, there's Athena, the goddess of wisdom and battle strategy. Her children may be intelligent.

Then there's Hephaestus. He is the god of blacksmiths and fire. His children could love architecture, or just playing around with gears and wires. You may be in robotics.

Another god is Poseidon, the god of the sea. You may love the sea, or aquatic wildlife.

Aphrodite is the goddess of love and looks. You may be into your outfits, or into your love life.

Another god is Zeus, the god of the sky, also the father, or king, of all gods. His children may be leaders, and determined. The wife of Zeus, and queen of the gods, is Hera, the goddess of marriage. Being the child of Hera means you are the child of Zeus.

You may have a mortal (non-godly) parent, but Juno would be your step mother.

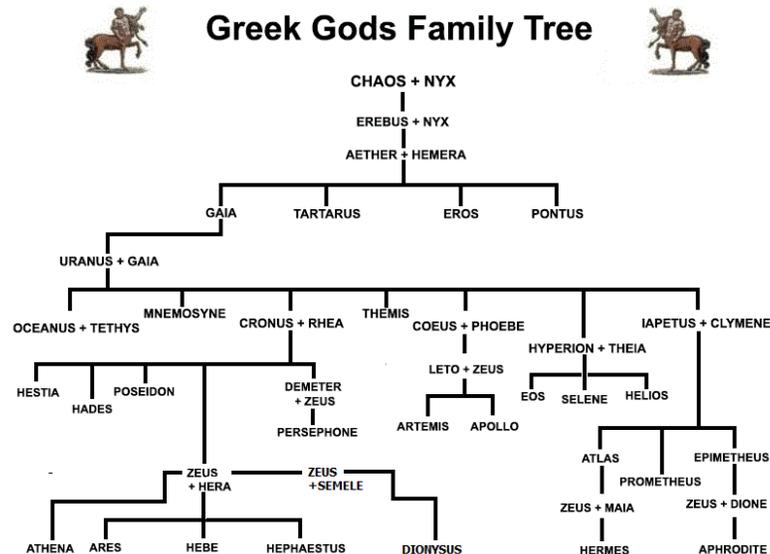
There are also minor gods. One minor god is Demeter, the goddess of farming and crops. If you were her child, you may love gardening.

Some more minor gods are Hestia, the goddess of Hearth, Nemesis, the goddess of revenge and balance, Thanatos (not Thanos) is the god of death, Phobos, the god of fear, and Deimos, the god of terror.

Some immortal beings don't exactly fit in the category of god. Gaea, for example is a personification of Earth. Gaea doesn't have many mortal children, and being the child of Gaea may not be an honor. Based on the Percy Jackson series, Gaea is the enemy.

Some may refer to her as Mother Earth.

After reading this, try to match up your personality with one of these Greek Gods! Maybe you could find out who may be your godly parent!





THE THREE MOST REWARDING FORMS OF GYMNASTICS

By: Eva Zambo

When most people think of gymnastics, they think of the version they see most often on TV during the Olympics. This form of the sport is called Artistic gymnastics. While this is the most famous type gymnastics, there are two other fast growing versions of this sport. They are Rhythmic and Trampoline/Tumbling, both of which are also Olympic sports. Altogether, over 5 million kids in the USA are involved in these 3 forms of gymnastics! Let's take a look at each of the three.

Artistic gymnastics for girls includes events such as Vault, Uneven bars, Balance Beam, and Floor Exercise. And the major events for boys Artistic Gymnastics are Floor Exercise, Pommel horse, Still Rings, Vault, Parallel Bars, and the Horizontal Bar. Artistic Gymnastics has been an Olympic sport since the very first Olympics in Athens, Greece in 1896!

Rhythmic gymnastics is a sport that combines elements of ballet, gymnastics and dance. There are six events in which are rope, hoop, ball, clubs, ribbon and freehand. Rhythmic gymnastics has been an Olympic sport since 1984.

Now for my personal favorite form of gymnastics...Trampoline and Tumbling. This style of gymnastics has been an Olympic sport since 2000. The events that this form of gymnastics include are Trampoline and Tumbling, obviously. But there is one more event, which is called Double Mini, which is an event with Trampoline and Tumbling put together.

I have been doing Trampoline and Tumbling since I was 3 years old and joined the Midwest T&T Team when I was 6. Since then, I have won over 60 medals and two National Championships while learning a lot about teamwork, exercise, friendship, focus, sportsmanship, competition and hard work.

All three forms of gymnastics are fun and challenging and, no matter if you make it to the Olympics or not, this sport is very, very rewarding.

Travel: Mexico

By: Emily Nelson

Mexico is a fascinating place. It draws your attention by the many interesting things to see. You will see many bright, fun colors, find many different people, and eat many types of food there. There are many different kinds of Mexican foods they serve, tacos, which are a flour or corn tortilla with meat, cheese, lettuce, and other ingredients of your choice. There are also tamales which are a traditional Mexican dish made with a corn dough mixture and filled with various meats. There is Mexican rice, beans, and many more delicious foods.

Mexico is very different than the United States. The people are different and may speak many different languages than us. Mexico is the 14th largest country by land area! You should try visiting Mexico! There are 31 states in Mexico as well as the capital, Mexico City. The main language spoken in Mexico is Spanish. The most popular sport in Mexico is soccer but they are one of the places that calls it football. Mexico hosted the football (soccer) world cup in both 1970 and 1986.



A map of Mexico. This country is directly south of the USA.

I Found 2 Toads

By Jadeynn Hall

It was 2:00 o'clock p.m in the middle of summer break, and I was outside playing with my brother. We were on our way to go back inside because we were really hot. All of a sudden, we found two toads sitting outside the door. One was bigger than the other. We grabbed a big plastic container that was big enough for 2 toads.

Then, we got some crickets from our bearded dragon, OJ. Next, we put the two toads in the container, found a lid that was too big for that container, and gave it a bunch of holes. Then we put the crickets in. The crickets were gone in **2 minutes**, which is really fast. When we put the crickets in, we couldn't believe our eyes. It was really cool watching how long the two toads' tongues were. In barely any time at all, the crickets were gone. Unfortunately, we knew we would have to put them back in the wild where they belong, but it was a really exciting thing to see.



Alexander the Great

By: David D. Stefanoski

Alexander the Great was known as charismatic, ruthless, brilliant and bloodthirsty. His thirteen-year reign as king of Macedonia changed the course of both European and Asian history.

The Greek philosopher [Aristotle](#) tutored the teenage Alexander during Phillip II's reign. Scholars have attributed Alexander's diplomatic skills and habit of carrying books with him on his military campaigns to Aristotle's influence.

Alexander took the throne at age 20 after his father's assassination. He quickly harnessed the military forces of the Hellenic League, assembling an army of more than 43,000 infantry and 5,500 cavalry.

In 334 B.C., he led the Macedonian army across the narrow straits of the Hellespont (today called the Dardanelles) into northwest Turkey. In one long military campaign that lasted 11 years, he conquered the [Persian Empire](#), making Macedonia the largest, most powerful empire in the world.

Alexander the Great's Macedonian Empire spanned from Greece to India. He died of unknown causes in 323 B.C. in the ancient city of Babylon, in modern-day Iraq. He was just 32 years old.

Alexander the Great had no direct heirs, and the Macedonian Empire quickly crumbled after his death. Military generals divided up the Macedonian territory in a series of civil wars.

Ancient Greek biographers at the time, including [Plutarch](#), surmised that Alexander had been poisoned, though modern medical historians suggest he may have died of natural causes, which could have included malaria or an abdominal infection (brought on by heavy drinking).

The Perfect Pet

By: Morgan Stagg

Have you ever had a pet that was not the right type for you? If you want a pet, you definitely want to choose the right one. The following suggestions may help you. If you like to run a lot, then you might want a big dog like a German Shepherd or a Golden Retriever because they need a lot of exercise. If your parents are worried about the money it costs to buy a pet, I have a good suggestion. You can adopt from a shelter because they are sometimes already trained. Even more importantly, you would give that dog or cat a second chance of a new life.

If you have a disability, then you could get a dog that can be easily trained to help people. They also should be gentle around humans. If you like to lay around, are not very hyper, and you don't like to run I might suggest a cat for a pet. If you get a cat, it needs to be nice. Again if you're worried about the money, buy one from the shelter and it just might be the right pet for you. It can be a hard decision to find a pet but if you follow these steps you will find a friend that will be with you for life!



A Christmas Story

By: John Zofkie

Have you ever gotten coal before? Receiving coal means you have been naughty! If you have not gotten coal before, then you have been very good! I have not gotten coal before, because I am always good. My uncle got coal once because he was talking back to my Mom and my Dad. Do you celebrate Christmas? Do you believe in Santa? if you don't, then you will not receive gifts.

Oh my Gosh, last year was the best Christmas yet because of all the things we got and all the things we did together. I got an Xbox and a computer so I can play games plus some other things. So after that, we celebrated again! We ate a turkey and some other stuff like hot chocolate. After that we played with our toys and built them. I got a race car and my sisters had another race car and we went outside and drove in the snow because it was waterproof. Lastly, we got a really big Christmas present for my mom and dad. We gathered everything up and invited everyone over to our house for a Christmas sleepover. That night, we went into a hot tub and me and Amber almost got frostbite! My dad said "You guys can only stay in the snow for one minute or you will get frostbite and go to the hospital!" We even made hot chocolate that we got to drink in the hot tub.

We all went inside after that. We also went to the movies after we opened gifts. When we got into the theater, there was a really big line and there were lots of people, so it took a while to get our tickets. When we finally got them, we headed to the movie. It was about 2 hours and 30 minutes and it was really fun. It was about people getting together and singing a song.

Eventually we headed home. We all went in our rooms to go to bed but I couldn't because it was such a fun day that I wanted to have more fun. So, I went on my Xbox and played Madden. After the game, I finally went to bed and had a dream about having Christmas over and over again. I slept really well and I woke up like a God! I ate the best breakfast! We had pancakes and bacon. It was the best breakfast in the world and I made sure to tell my mom that. She said "Thank you Johnny!" At the end we all just played with our toys and slept. It was the most amazing Christmas ever.

Bat Flying Over Water

By Anna McQuen

A bat flying over a warm thick blanket of water where all the fish are sleeping dreamily

It smells like a tropical day about to begin

Hearing the loch ness monster grumbling with hunger, grrrrrrr

And hearing the birds screeching with terror

I feel the rush of the water between my fingertips, swissssssh

And feeling the fish gliding along on a waterslide

The slimey, slippery, swervy, seaweed dances with the algae and the coral

The puffer fish puffs up to scare away the meanies of the sea

And the sunset as beautiful as each grain of sand going down to another beauty

rising to give the good dreams and taking away the bad days And then another breathtaking day begins

With it starting all over again and again and again

Are Electronics Really Necessary?

By: Kaitlyn Nelson

Have you, or someone you know, ever spent too much time on an electronic device? Do you wish it'd stop? Keep reading to find out if electronics are actually necessary in our daily lives.

From personal experience, when I have spent too much time on electronics, I usually get cranky and stressed out more easily. I do think electronics can help us with alarms, maps, etc. but I don't think we really need to use them all the time.

By the time children turn 18, they will have spent about 6 years of their lives on electronics (some more or less). If you fall into the category of "more", that is definitely not a good thing. Here are some ways to prevent this from happening.
#1 - Try to limit time spent on electronics. If you are on it for too long, it can cause brain damage, such as constant headaches and seizures, and poor eyesight.

#2 - Make a schedule to keep yourself busy and away from electronics. This can help prevent spending too much time on electronics.

#3 - Ask a parent or guardian for help. If you ask them for help staying off of electronics, they can help you find different things to do to keep yourself occupied.

#4 - Make a chart. Limit the time you spend on electronics to about an hour at the least. If you make a chart, you can keep track of how long you've spent on electronics. It can also help you learn how to keep organized.

(Electronics Continued)

Electronics have their benefits, but they also have disadvantages. One disadvantage is that it can harm relationships, such as your social and mental health. No matter who you have a relationship with, it is never a good thing to leave an unhealthy relationship unresolved, even if that relationship is with your device! Another thing that is not good about spending too much time on electronics is that it can damage your health. Whether it is physically, mentally, or both, it can really make a difference.

When you spend too much time on electronics, you might get cranky or lose sleep. You might start to feel angry at someone for no particular reason. Next time you think about using an electronic device, remember these tips on how to limit your time.

Have You Ever Been to Golden Corral?

By: Jadeynn Hall

Have you ever been to golden corral? It is a buffet restaurant, which means they don't bring your food to you. You get to get your own food. Golden corral will cook your steak the way you want it. You might have to wait for it but it's amazing. Golden corral has salads too if you're a vegetarian. I think you should try Golden Corral because they have food for vegetarians and pescatarians that do eat meat. Golden Corral's breakfast costs \$8.69. Their lunch costs \$9.95 and there dinner costs \$11.99, which is a great deal. Golden Corral's restaurants have been open for 45 years and their food is amazing! They have a lot of food to choose from, so everyone will be happy.

NEWSPAPER STAFF

Credit for the authors, designers, and editors of our paper. Thank you for contributing:

Myah Buckmaster, Claire Davis, Abby Gilbert, Jadeynn Hall, Madelyn Jefferson, Ava Johnson, Anna McQuen, Emily Nelson, Kaitlyn Nelson, Ceilla Querimit, Morgan Stagg, David Stefanoski, Sophia Vorwald, Eva Zambo, and John Zofkie,

