

Synergy Homework Assignment

Goals for the School Year Essay:

Parents, please help your student come up with ideas and neatly hand write or type your child's essay about what they would like to accomplish this school year. Students in primary k-3 grades will need more assistance in this task. Students in 4-6 grades may need help getting ideas started but less help writing the essay. Students in 7-8 grades may not need much help doing this assignment but will need help from their parent with editing.

K-3: One half page or more

4-6: One Full page

7-8: One and a half to two pages

Essay must be neatly hand written or typed in 14 point font (only).

This will be due at your first check in with your teacher.

Helpful things to think about:

Step 1 (your school goals)

At the start of the school year, it's important to set goals. Ask your student (child), "What are some things you want to have happen over the course of this year at school?" Anything from, "I want to finally learn how to simplify fractions..." to "I want to learn how to use a computer..."

Step 2 (your personal goals)

It's also important to set goals for ourselves, to become better as individuals. This is known as improving our character. We all have the ability to act in what can be referred to as "virtuous ways." Acting in these ways most of the time is good for us and good for those around us. Here is a list of 12 "virtues" (at this point, you can choose to discuss each one, ask students to add to the list, etc., as your time and interest allow). Ask your child/student, "What are some things about themselves they would like to work on or improve?" Example, "I would like to become more confident this school year. Ways I can try to help my confidence would be to finally speak in front of my peers..." "I would like to be more responsible this school year. My parents are going to get me a responsibility chart at home and we will go over it with my teacher throughout the school year..."

Caring

Confidence

Kindness

Courage

Perseverance

Courtesy

Respect

Enthusiasm

Responsibility

Patience

Generosity

Truthfulness

Grades 4-8 additional ideas for your essay (optional):

Who is someone you admire, either in your life or in history, and what is the core virtue that you think they have followed?

Find one of your own virtues on the list and share a few words about how you try to live this virtue.

What is a virtue that you would like to work on to improve your life?

What are some ways that you can show this virtue?

How can I help you to do this successfully?