

Round Top Elementary – School Improvement Council
Parent Homework Survey (February 2011)
Results – May 2011

To: Round Top Elementary Parents
From: School Improvement Council (SIC)



As you recall, the SIC conducted a parent survey in February of this year to gather input from you regarding your child's experience with homework. We received 196 responses which included valuable feedback and creative suggestions. Included here are the results sorted by grade level.

The next step of the SIC is to work in partnership with the teachers and administration to formulate ideas for improvements and greater efficiency related to homework. If you are interested in participating in this process, please email Mrs. Tucker by May 27th to express your interest.

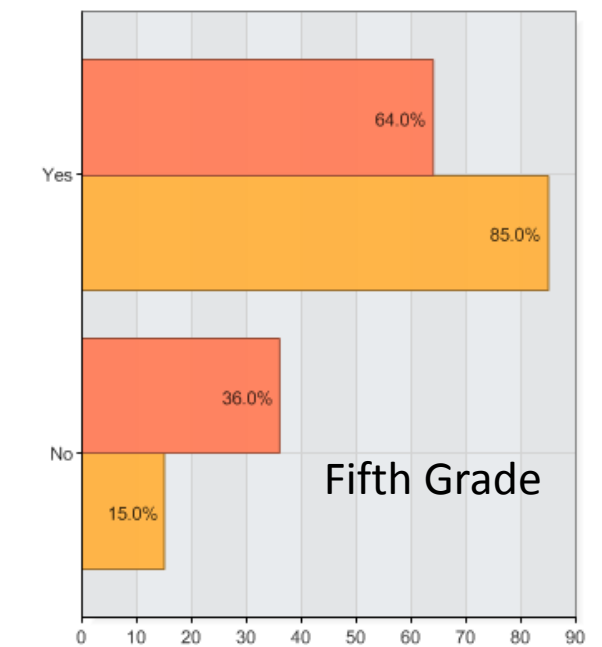
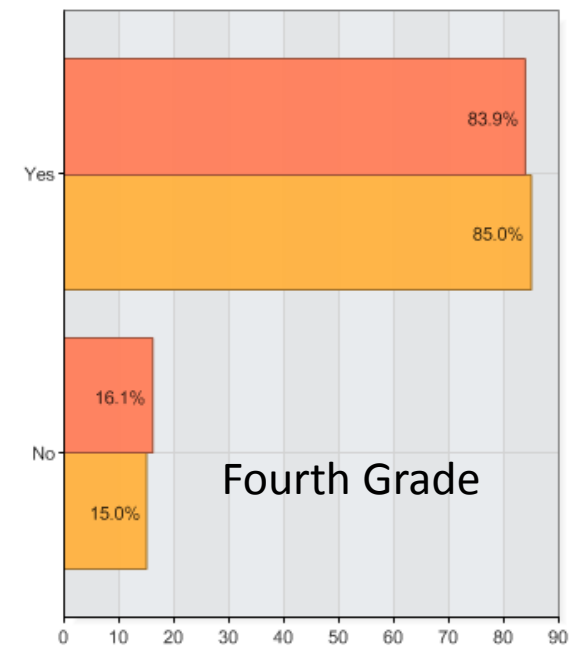
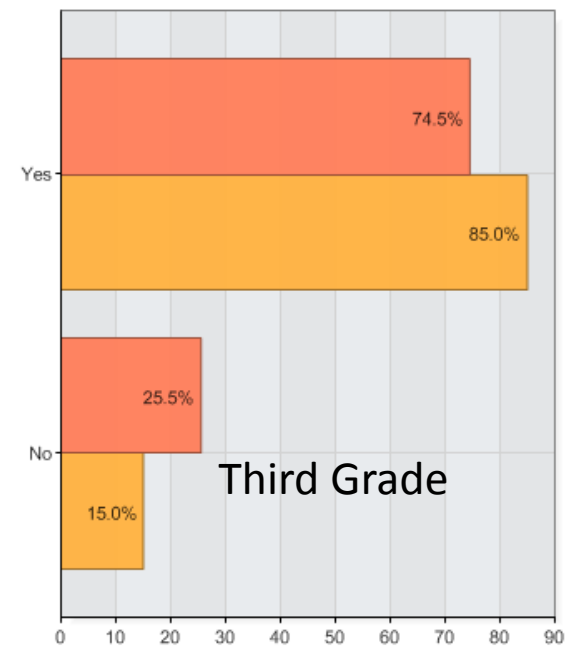
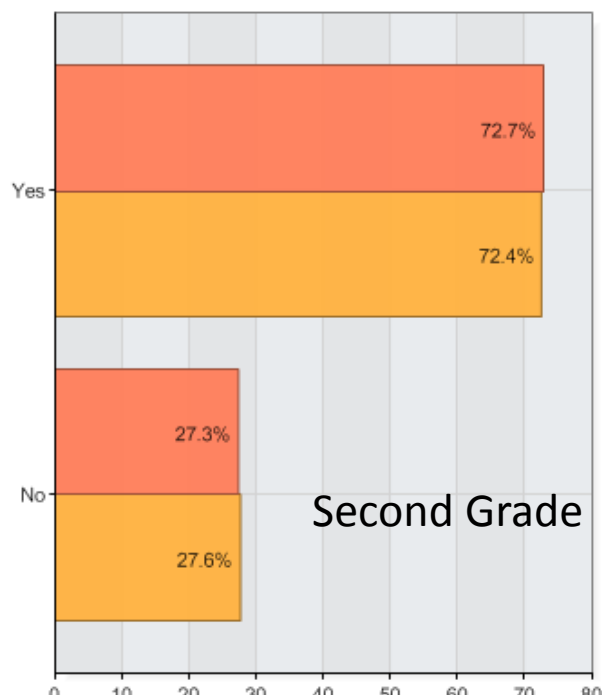
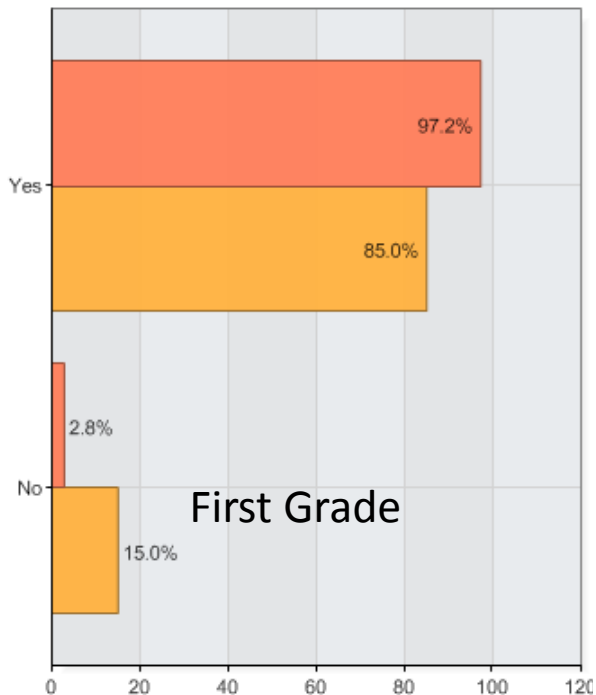
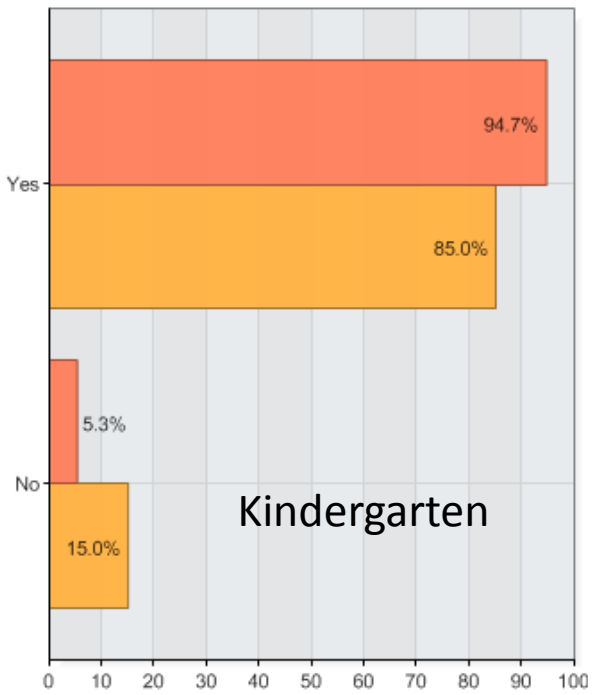
jtucker@richland2.org

Homework is a complicated topic because of the many differences in students' academic abilities, interests, and learning styles. At RTE, we are very fortunate to have such well-trained and caring teachers who accommodate these differences every day. We will never have the perfect homework solution that meets everyone's needs fully. However, with parents, teachers, and administrators all working together, we can offer our students the best opportunity for success.

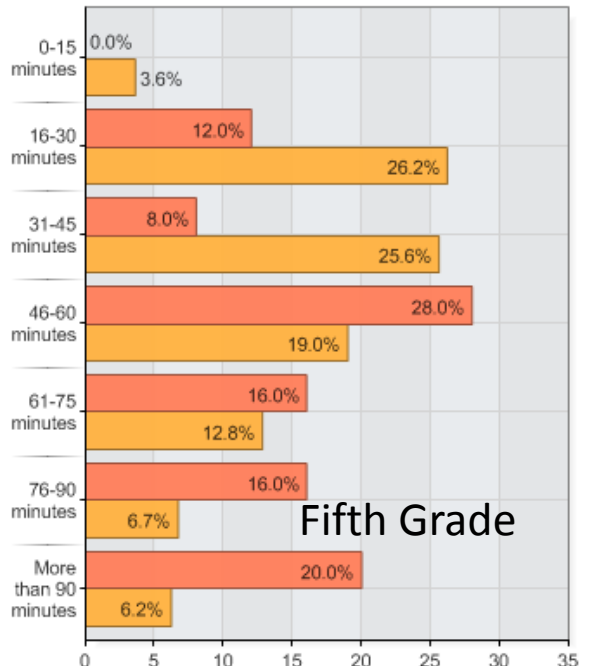
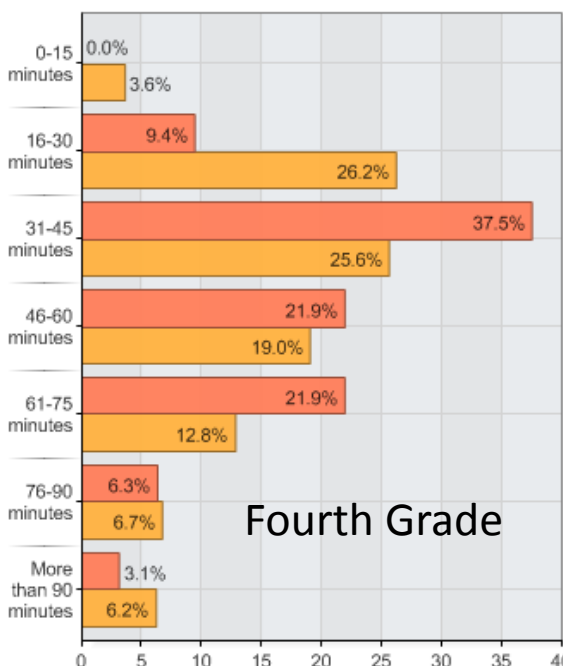
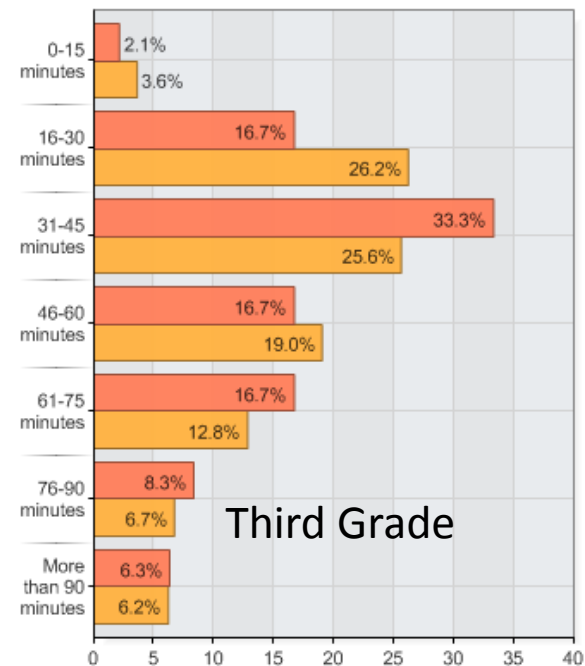
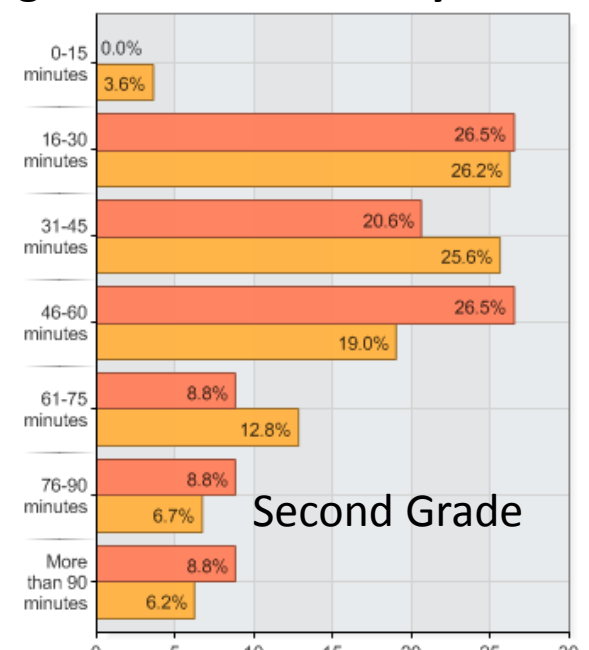
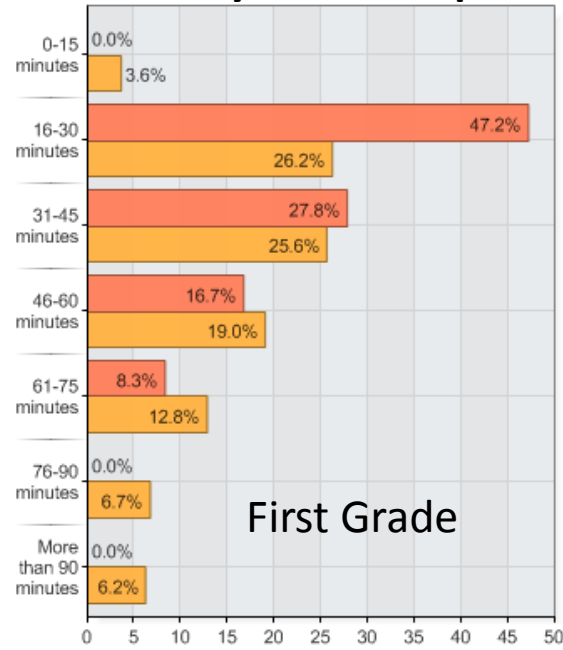
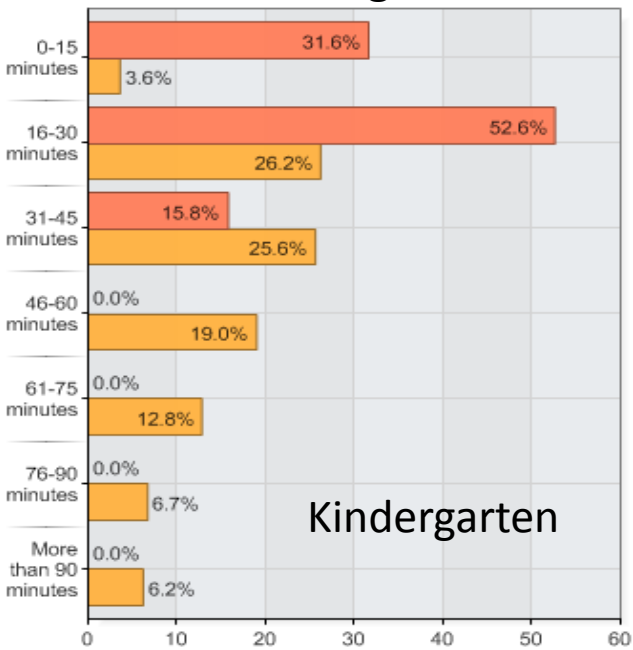
Please contact any member of the SIC with questions or comments.

-  Indicates Total Response
-  Indicates Grade Level Response

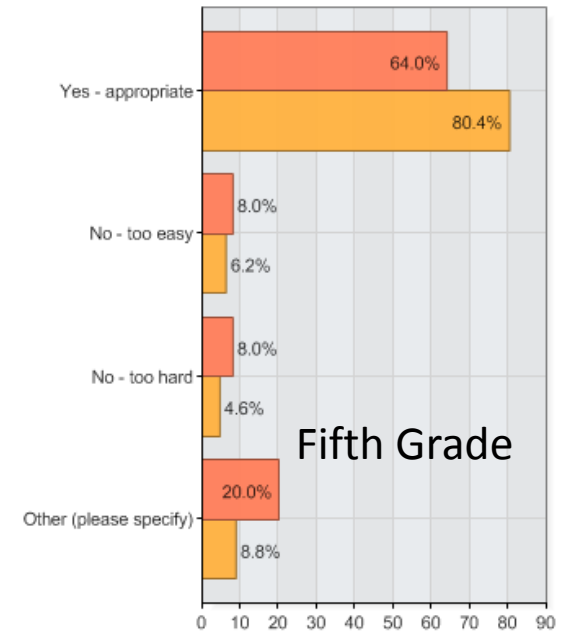
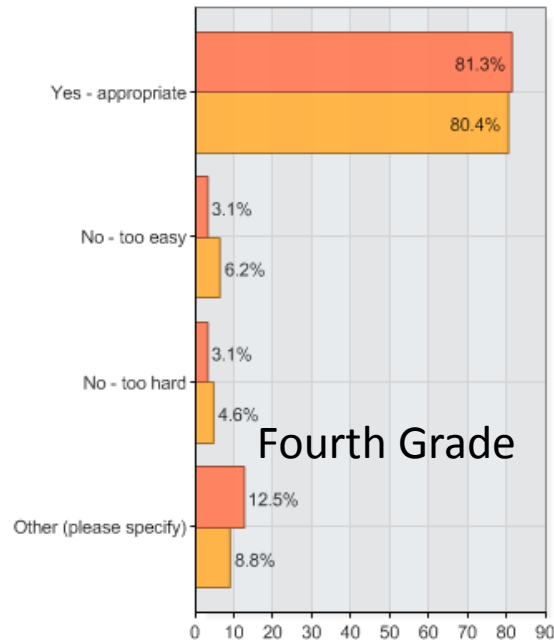
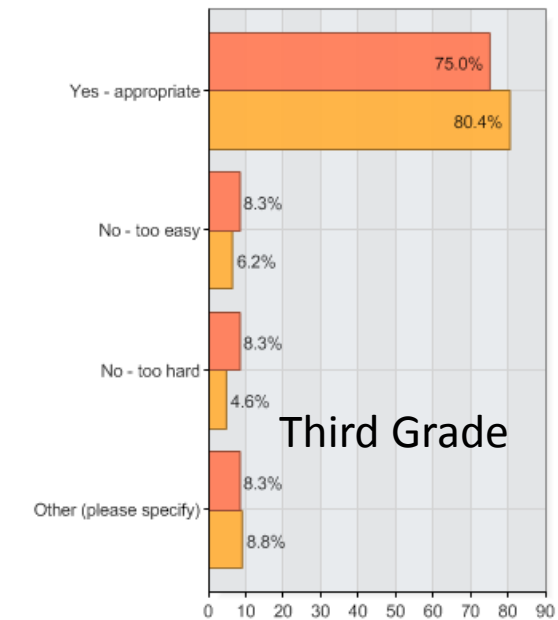
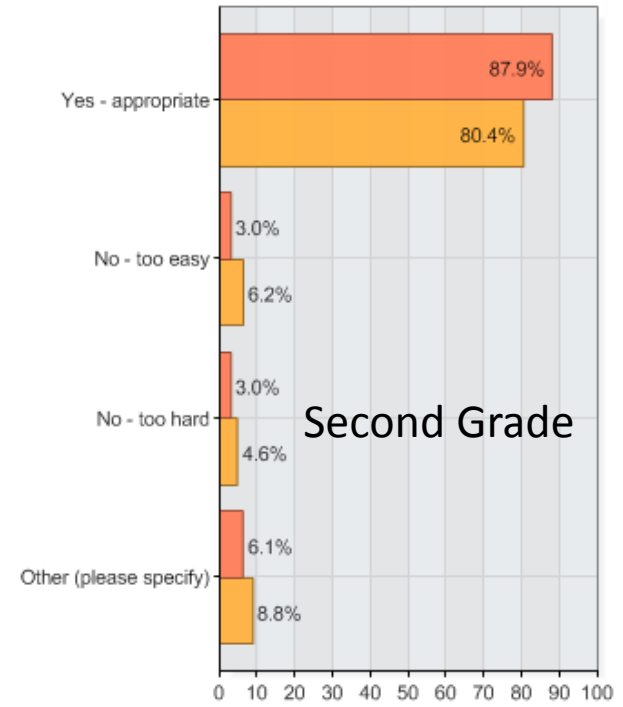
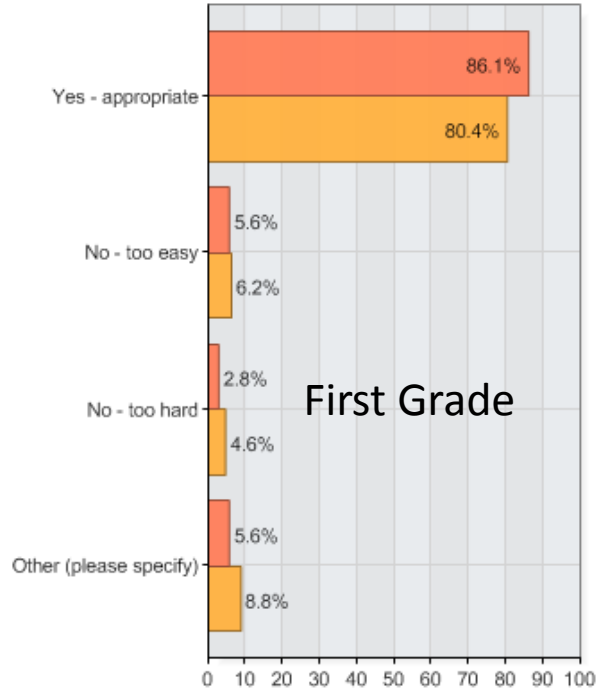
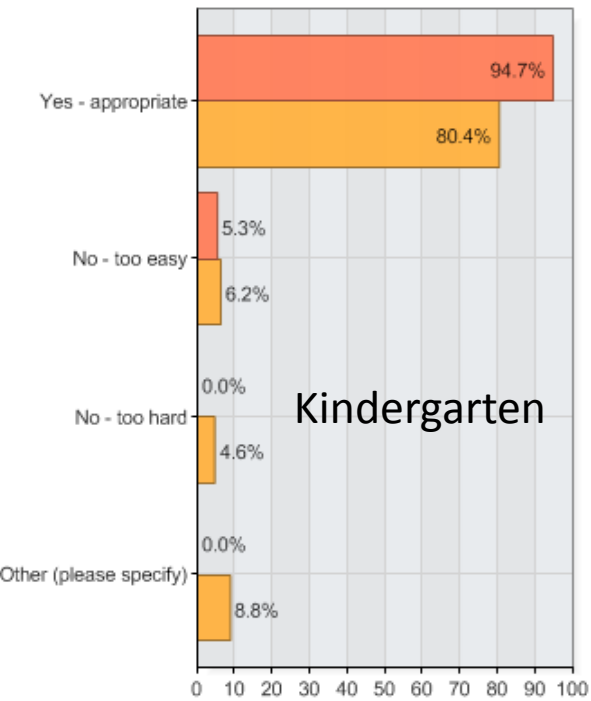
Do you believe the content of the homework promotes additional understanding?



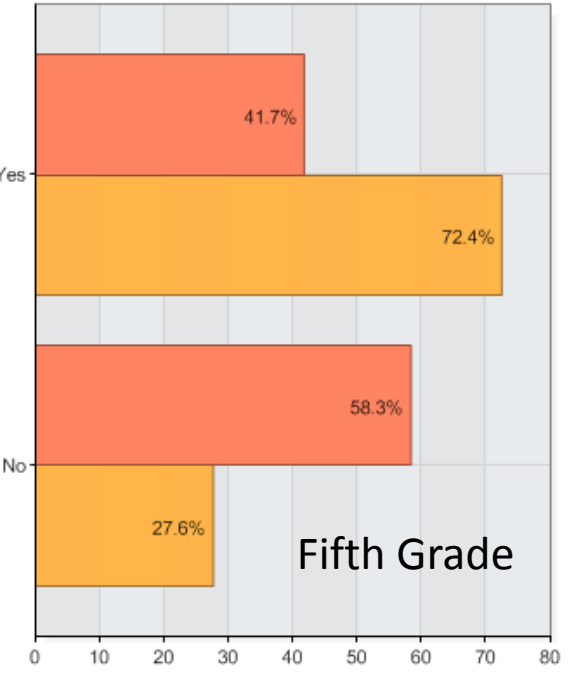
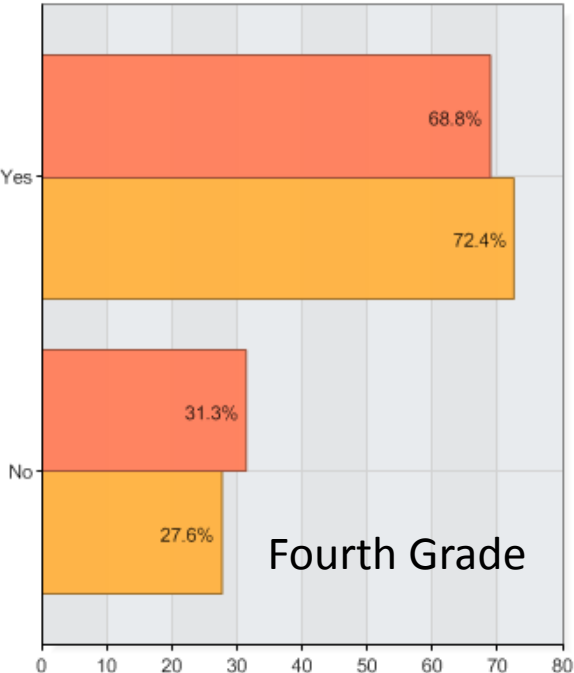
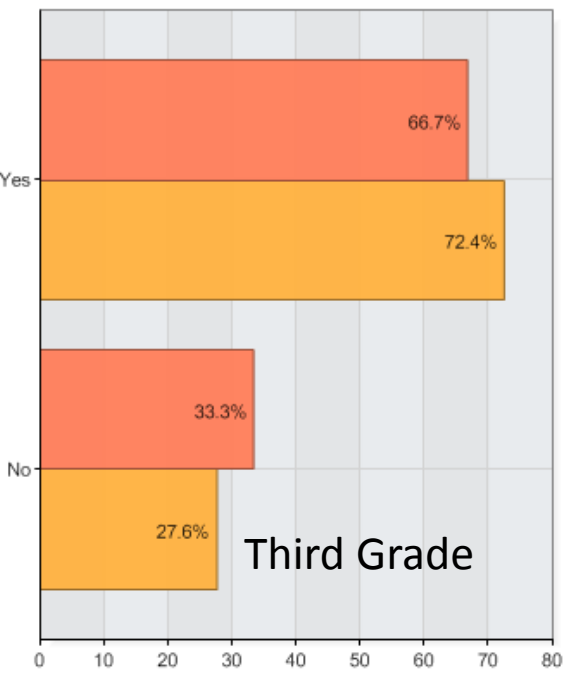
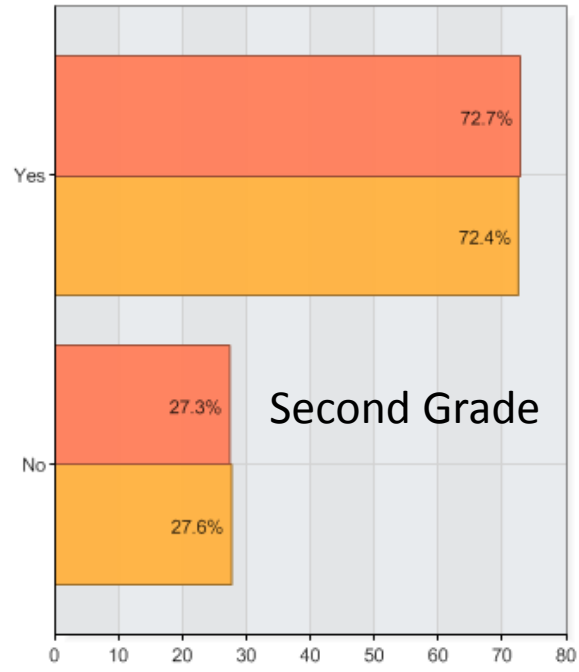
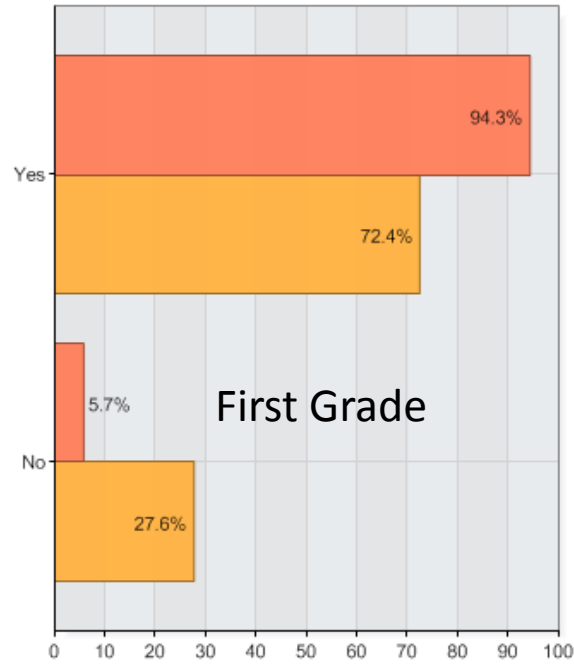
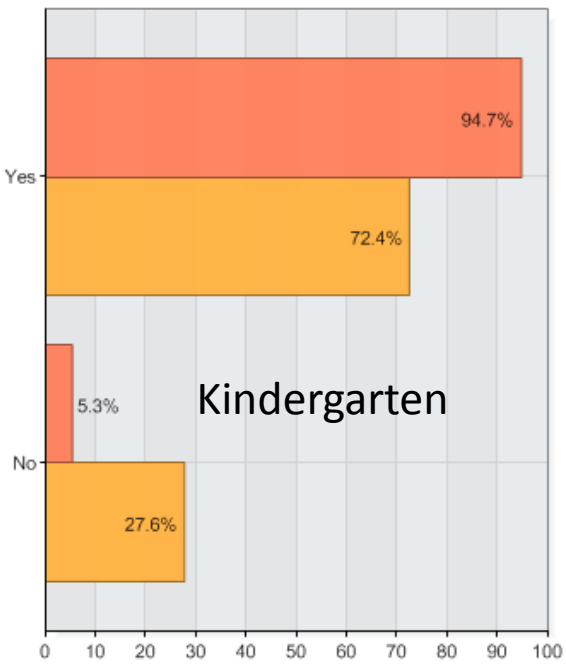
On average, how much time does your child spend doing homework each day?



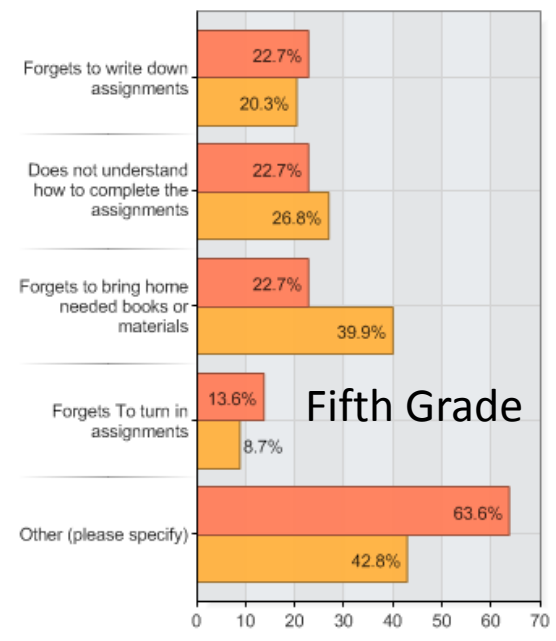
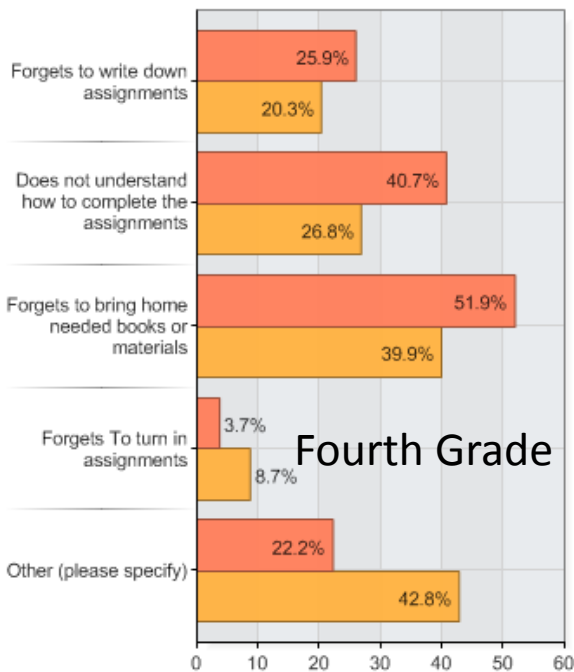
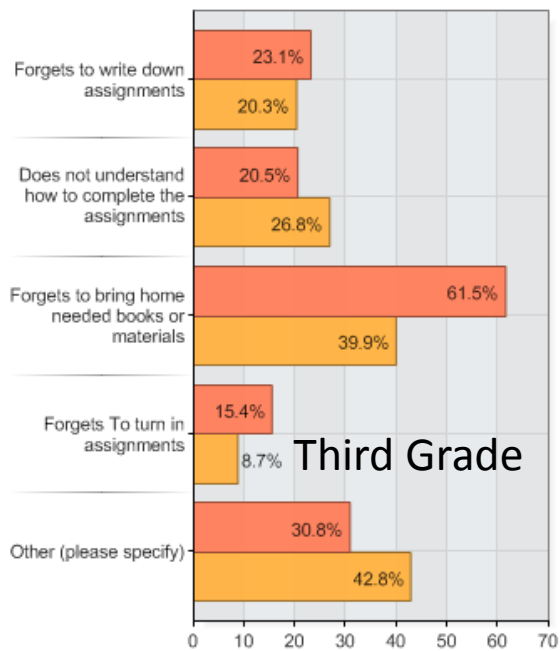
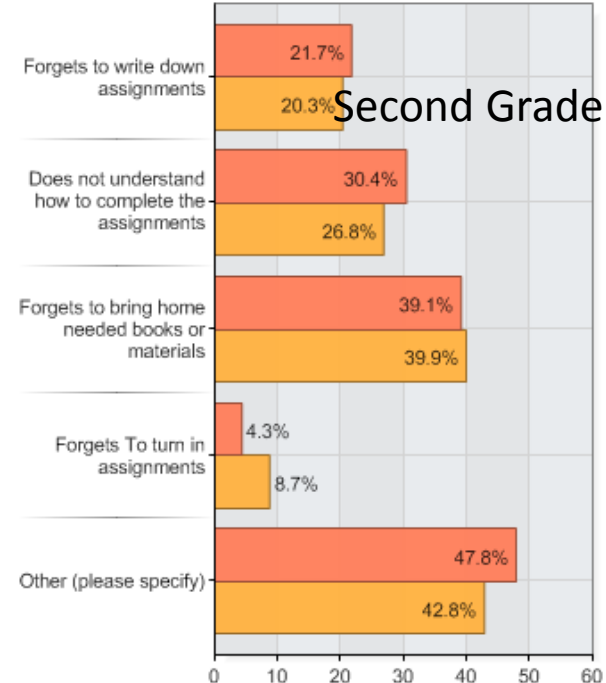
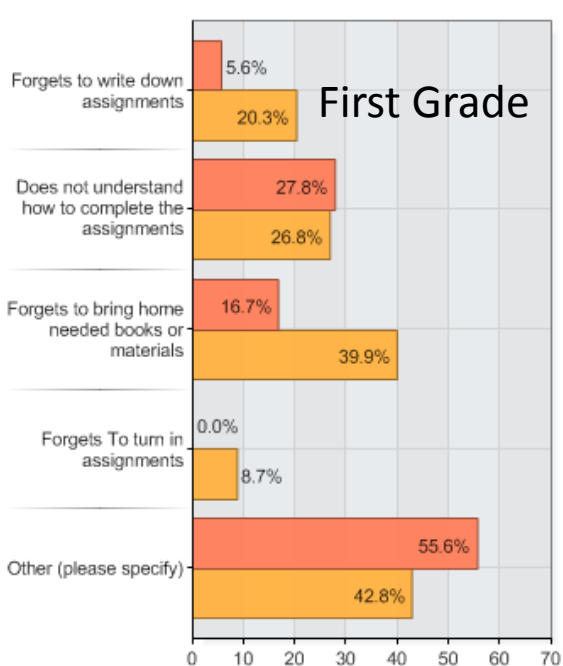
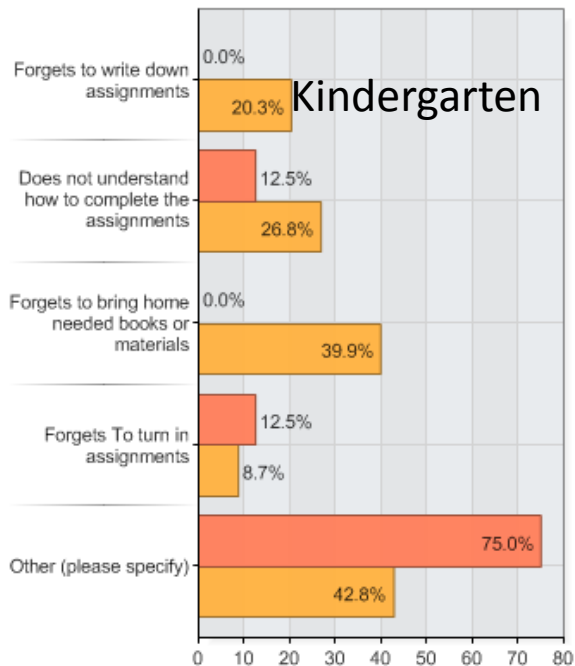
Do you believe the content of the homework is appropriate for your child...



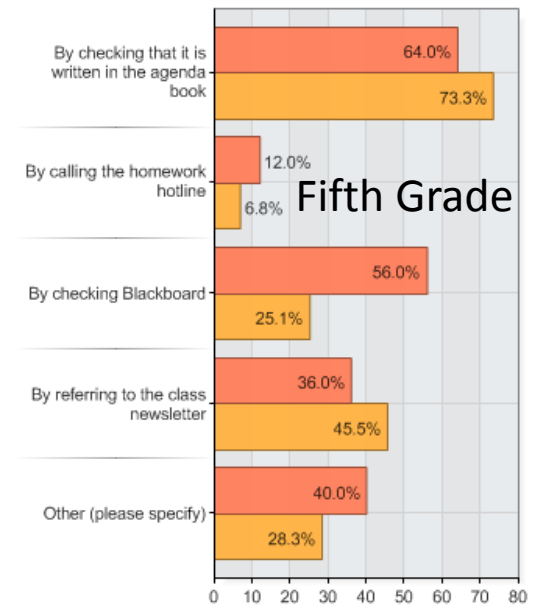
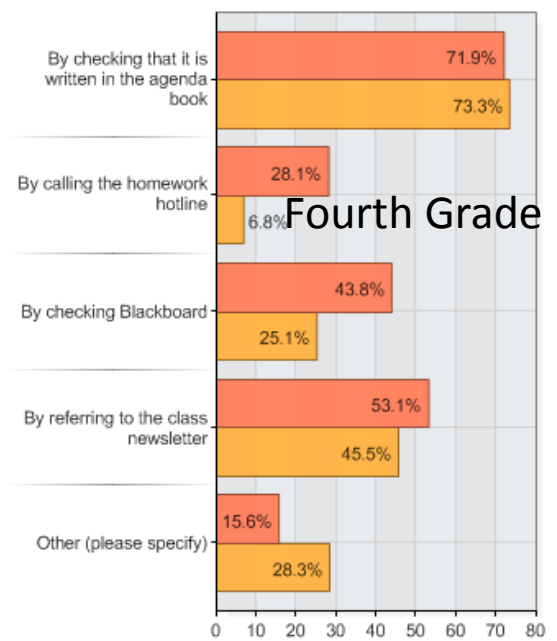
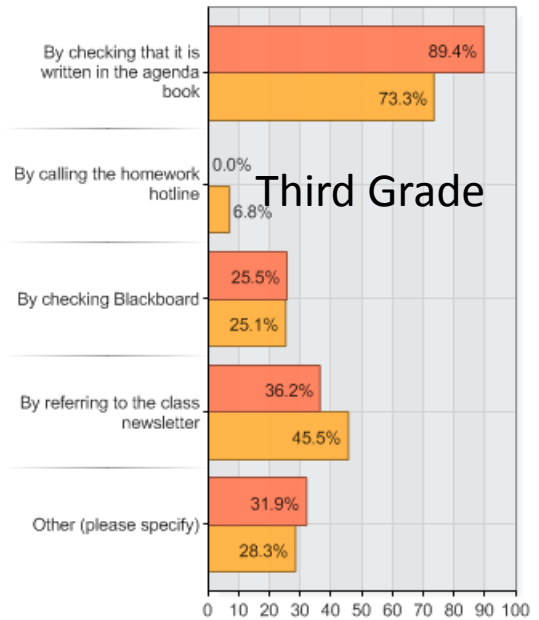
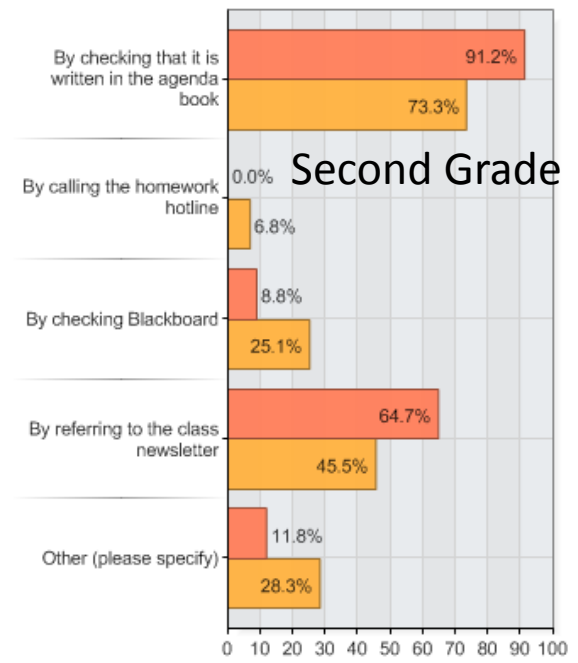
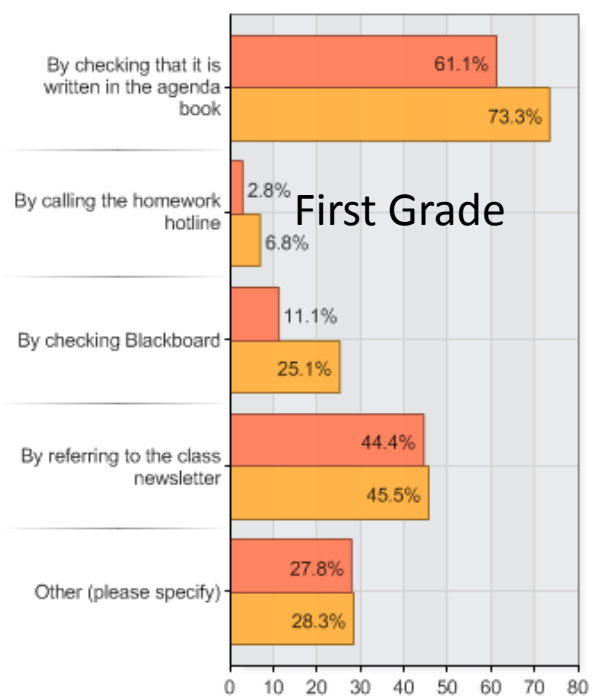
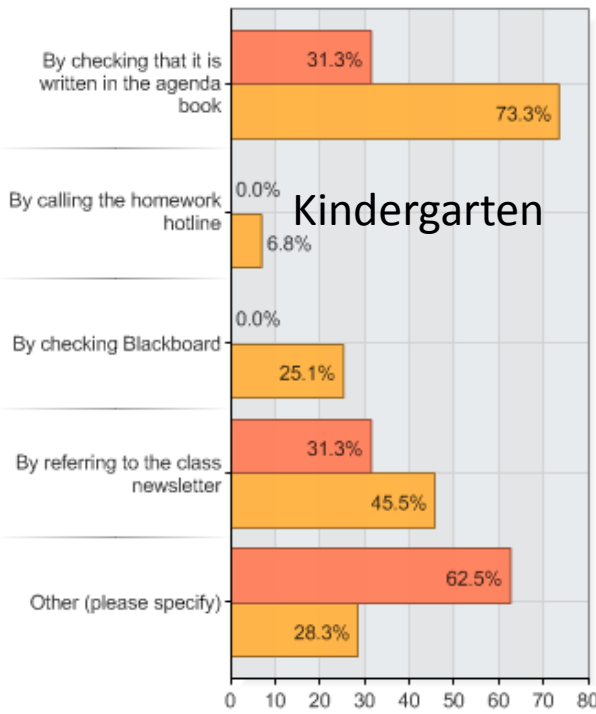
Do you believe the quantity of homework is appropriate?



What challenges, if any, does your child experience with homework?



How do you hold your child accountable for knowing homework assignments?



Round Top Elementary – School Improvement Council

Parent Homework Survey (February 2011)

Narrative Summary – May 2011

The narrative comments within the parent homework survey were extensive and detailed. The excerpts below attempt to condense the most common themes and express the general feelings from the survey.

- Takes too much time.
- Students need play time after having been in school all day.
- Limit subjects – if having a test in one subject, then don't assign homework in another subject.
- Limit quantity – just too much – students are overwhelmed.
- Volume of homework leaves no time or desire for 'pleasure' reading after assignments are completed.
- Homework often doesn't coordinate with what is taught in class.
- Homework is used to catch up on what there wasn't time for during the school day.
- Study Island - too many questions - is not used appropriately. Students have to complete large volume of questions; explanations not provided on what is incorrect – if just one or two are missed then it's too difficult to recover.
- Tests are too concentrated – 3-4 tests every Friday.
- "Taught to the test."
- Child is beginning to "hate" school.
- Math is not comprehensive enough.
- Not enough homework – should be at least two hours.
- Quantity is not enough to reinforce subject matter.
- Would like bonus work to encourage and challenge more learning.
- Teacher is flexible.
- Good balance of homework to go with schoolwork.
- Great communication with my teachers.
- Teachers do an excellent job of teaching what my 1st grade student needs to learn.
- 5th grade teachers and related arts are doing a great job – teaching compassion and Lifeskills.
- When homework takes too long it is usually because child is procrastinating.
- Hard to find extra practice when a student is struggling with a topic.

Suggestions included within Comments

- Prioritize homework or make some assignments optional.
- Would like to see choices in math practice similar to what's available for spelling.
- Teacher gives reading questions and spelling words on Friday for the following week so we can work ahead.
- Time required should relate to the grade – 10 min for 1st; 20 min for 2nd; etc.
- Video tape lessons or instruction then post on Blackboard.
- Need more consistency within grade level on how homework is checked and graded.
- Offer a “study hall” type of time during the day.
- Make sure directions for special projects are clear.
- More material on Blackboard would be helpful.
- All assignments provided at the beginning of the week would allow parents to schedule around other activities.
- Would like more optional activities for the students who need more of a challenge.