



Multisensory Homework Assignments

Creating multisensory homework assignments facilitates students' success. Be clear about the purpose of the assignment first; then consider a variety of multisensory tasks to achieve it. Varying types of assignments offers students opportunities to excel in different ways. The grid below presents some examples to spur thinking about multisensory homework.

Homework Purpose	Commonly Assigned Homework	Multisensory Alternatives that Achieve the Same Purpose
Demonstrate understanding of a concept or event in history.	Write an essay.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create an interactive website. • Make a short (5-7 minute) documentary film. • Write a letter to the class from the perspective of a witness to, participant in, or key person related to the event. Include the major points that you want others to understand about it. • Create an online photo album with images and annotations that demonstrate your understanding of the concept or event.
Learn how to use particular mathematical formulas.	Practice plugging in information and solving for area, distance, or velocity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measure the radius or length/width of common objects and calculate the area. • Measure the distance from one point to another and then time a car moving to calculate the average speed it traveled. • Measure two sides of a right triangle and then use the Pythagorean Theorem to find the third side. Check it by measuring the third side.
Learn or review characteristics of functions, numbers, operations, etc.	List characteristics of linear and quadratic functions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete a Venn diagram with similarities and differences between linear and quadratic functions, operations, types of numbers, etc. • Create a card game that reviews the characteristics of mathematical concepts.
Learn key ideas related to plot, setting, and character from a book	Read chapter.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read and make two-columned notes for characters/setting/plot. • Create a paper or poster with pictures or drawings and corresponding descriptions of setting/plot/characters and explain it to a partner. • Highlight characters, setting, and key events in three different colors while reading. • Use colored sticky-notes that correspond to characters, setting, or key events. Affix a setting note to the pages on which the author describes the setting, and write your question or comment on the note. Do the same for characters and key events.



<p>Understand scene(s) from a Shakespeare play</p>	<p>Read scene(s) and translate to contemporary English.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Watch several interpretations of the same scene on YouTube and write about how they are different.• Record yourself reading the scene out loud (alone or with friends). Then record yourself playing the scene with your own words.
<p>Learn vocabulary words from a list</p>	<p>Study vocabulary.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Make index cards (or use a free flashcard software such as Quizlet). Write the word on the front and a picture that reminds you of the definition. Write the definition and a sentence on the back.• Write a poem/story/song/mini-play that uses the vocabulary words.• Write the words on a piece of paper that you affix to a container (e.g., coffee can or oatmeal box). Fill the container with small objects or pictures that remind you of each word's definition. To review these words, dump out the objects and match them to the definitions.
<p>Review for a test.</p>	<p>Study concepts from the chapter.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use an online discussion page/forum to interact with classmates and ask and answer questions.• Create note cards with major ideas or equations as a study guide.