

DEBATE IT

Need Homework?

Teachers at a Maryland school are no longer giving homework. Instead, students are told to read 30 minutes from a book each night. Teachers think that is more useful.

But some parents argue that homework is a way for kids to practice what they learned at school. Do you think kids should be given homework?



Yes

Saleah Jarrell, Ohio

Having homework just helps us understand things better, especially if we're having trouble with a subject. It shows teachers which kids need more help, and it lets our parents know what we're learning in the classroom. Homework also teaches us to be more responsible.

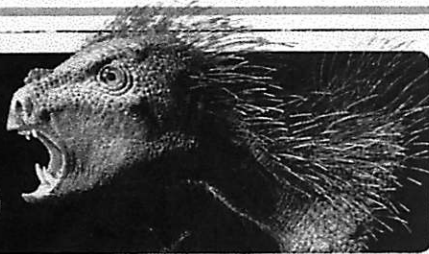


No

James Avila, California

Kids shouldn't have homework because teachers sometimes give us too much. When we get home, we just rush through it so we can do other things. Sometimes during the holidays, we can't spend time with our families because we have to do homework.

New Dino



This fang-toothed creature may look like a monster from a movie, but it actually once roamed the planet. It's a new kind of dinosaur, called *Pegomastax* (PEG-o-mas-tahks). But this tiny dino couldn't have been too scary. It was only about the size of a pet cat.

The dinosaur's fossil was first discovered in South Africa during the 1960s. But it was stored in a box and forgotten! Scientist Paul Sereno found it years later. He says,

Word to Know

species: a type of animal or plant

"My eyes popped, as it was clear this was a new species!"

NUMBERS IN THE NEWS

Thanksgiving is celebrated across the nation on November 22. This pictograph shows the number of places in the U.S. with Thanksgiving words in their names.

Thanksgiving Places

Word	Number of Places in U.S. With Word in Name
Plymouth	
Turkey	
Mayflower	
Pilgrim	

KEY
 = 2

NOTE: DATA DO NOT INCLUDE TOWNSHIPS OR COUNTY SUBDIVISIONS



How many more places have "Plymouth" in their names than "Turkey"?

SOURCE: U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

Find It!



MINI-LESSON: Past-tense Verbs

Past-tense verbs tell about an action that already happened. On this page, circle past-tense verbs for *celebrate*, *discover*, *roam*, and *store*.