Too Tired to do Homework

Jose Martinez is nine years old. He is a fourth grade student at Washington Elementary School.
It is 7:00 P.M. and Jose has just finished eating his dinner. His mother is standing at the sink washing the dishes.
Jose walks into the living room and turns on the TV. Then he sits down on the sofa and puts his feet up on the coffee table.

“Jose,” his mother calls out from the kitchen. “What are you doing?”

“I'm watching TV,” answers Jose.
“It’s not time to watch TV,” says Jose’s mother. “It’s time to do your homework.”

“But Mom!” cries Jose. “It’s a baseball game between the San Diego Padres and the Los Angeles Dodgers! I need to see what happens.”

“Sorry, but your report on California is what’s happening in this house. Remember the report is due this Friday.”
“That’s right, Mom. It’s due on Friday. Today is only Tuesday. I have a lot of time to finish that report. I’m too tired to do homework tonight.”
Jose’s mother walks into the living room and turns off the TV. She says, “Listen, Jose. I’m tired too. I’ve been working hard all day. But your homework is very important. It is your responsibility and mine that you finish it.”
“Now let’s sit at the table and get out the books, maps, pens, paper, and everything else you need to do a beautiful report on the state of California.”

“Okay, okay,” answers Jose. I’ll work on the report.” Jose walks over to the kitchen table.
“Mom, did you know San Diego is the second largest city in the state of California?”

“Oh?” says his mother.

“Yes! And San Diego has beautiful beaches, a warm climate, and a major league baseball team called the San Diego Padres.”

“That’s good information, Jose. You can write that in your report!”
“By the way,” says Jose. “The Padres are playing again on Thursday night. If I finish my report, can I watch the game on TV?”

“Yes,” laughs Jose’s mother. “If you finish your report, you can watch the game on Thursday night.”