

math at home

Dear Family,

While your child is busy learning many new math concepts at school, home practice is also needed. This does not consist solely of completing math worksheets or homework from school. This includes having discussions with your child about the math they encounter throughout the day. It means playing and seeing objects in new ways, planning and finding ways to solve problems together around the home, and it means using technology with purpose.

Practicing math at home does not require any specific amount of time, yet should happen daily as children encounter new things and participate in the home. The following handout provides a number of ways to practice math at home.

Please assist me in building your child's math skills and fluency by participating in math activities and discussions together. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you for your support in your child's learning!

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Games Involving Math

Board Games: Promote screen-free time and family bonding with fun and educational board games. Some favorites for teaching Math are <u>Hi, Ho Cherry-O</u>, <u>Yahtzee</u>, and <u>Trouble</u>. **Playing with Tactile Objects:** Use whatever you have at home to continue to build on their child's <u>number sense skills</u>. Things such as coins, a bag of dry beans, stickers, or shape cut-outs are great for hands-on learning.

Apps and Web-Based Games: <u>ABCMouse.com</u> is a paid option. There are also free online games such as those found on <u>ABCYa.com</u>, <u>Math Playground</u> and <u>Cool Math Games</u>.

Math Practice Handouts

Online Printables: Utilize the multitude of printable math worksheets that can be found and downloaded (often for free) online for practice if necessary in addition to classroom work. Daily Math Practice Sheets: A great option for home practice are <u>Math Mats</u>. <u>Try some for FREE by clicking HERE!</u> Make it Routine: Through the <u>Bedtime Math</u> program, you can build Math into their nightly routine with a question of the day.

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Talking About Math

Discussions: Bring up Math topics with your children throughout the day. For example, talk about geometry, symmetry, measurement, problem-solving, and counting while building with LEGOs or drawing with sidewalk chalk. **Figuring it Out:** Mental Math is the perfect skill practice on the go. Even on short car rides, math can be practiced by posing questions on any topic that requires kids to think about the answer in their head.

Real Life Math

During Play: Bring up Math concepts throughout the day during play. Things like blocks, crayons, toy cars, puzzles, and crafts can be used to teach skills such as counting, recognizing solids, patterns, comparing, and ordering. **Around the Home:** Math is easily integrated into daily tasks in the kitchen, yard work, and home repair, such as measuring ingredients and recognizing patterns while gardening and working around the house.

The Use of Money: If your child earns an allowance, they can learn about the value of money and how to count it. Suggest implementing a summer savings plan or giving children a penny for progress made towards a goal.