

HOW TO HELP YOUR CHILD WITH MATHEMATICS

1) Create a homework routine

Familiar routines help work go smoothly at school and at home. With your child, decide on a time and place to do homework, along with a few rules. A typical routine might be – *come home, have a snack, clear a space at the table, start math homework.*

2) Read Family Letters and Home Links / Study Links

These pages describe what your child is learning so that you can help. They also suggest fun and easy math activities you can do at home. Consider keeping all of these pages in a special folder to refer to later.

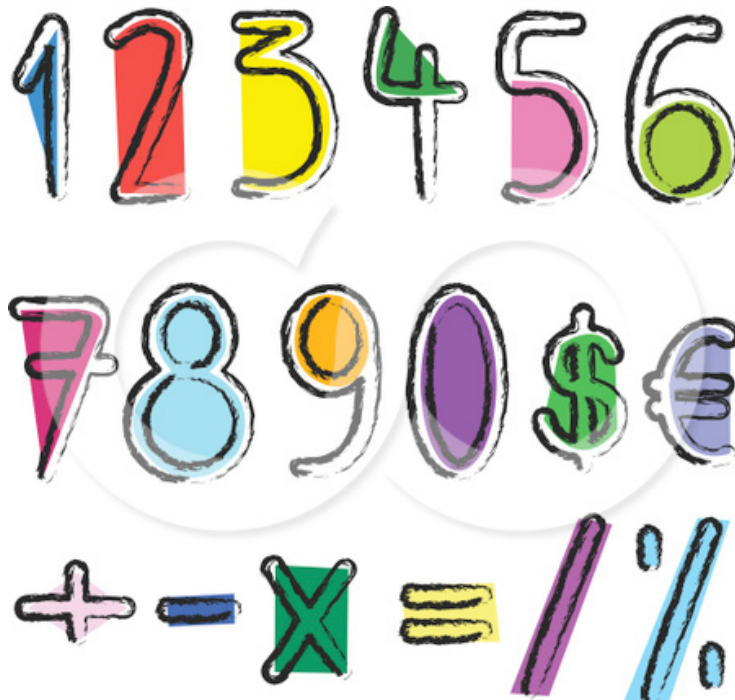
3) Ask your child to explain

Encourage your child to teach you the day's math lesson using the problems in the Home Links / Study Links. Ask questions about the steps your child uses to solve a problem, such as - *Why did you put that number there? Or What does that zero mean?*

4) Use questions to help

Although it's tempting to give children answers when they're confused, they learn more if you help them discover the answers for themselves. Try doing this with questions such as these:

- *Have you seen problems like this before? Is there an example anywhere that might help?*



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- *What is the problem asking you to do or to find?*
- *What's one idea you have for finding an answer?*
- *Can you draw a picture of the problem? Can you use objects to show*

5) Play math games

Games your child brings home from school or store-bought games that involve mathematical thinking will help your child master skills. Attached is a list of commercial games with mathematical components.

6) Challenge your child

If the Additional Practice Worksheets seem too easy consider making the numbers bigger or visit websites that would challenge your child mathematically. Attached is a list of websites that will provide your child additional opportunities for practice, challenge and enjoyment in the area of mathematics.



HELPFUL WEBSITES FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS

- Everyday Mathematics website for parent information

<http://everydaymath.uchicago.edu/parents/>

- Math Challenges for Families from "Figure This"

http://www.figurethis.org/challenges/challenges_index.htm

- Interactive Arithmetic [math game for two people]

<http://www.shodor.org/interactive/activities/ArithmeticFour>

- Interactive Games

<http://bigbrainz.com> (free online facts practice; all operations)

<http://resources.oswego.org/games/>

- Math Playground

<http://mathplayground.com/games.html>

- aplusmath <http://www.aplusmath.com>

- purplemath <http://www.purplemath.com>

<http://www.aplusmath.com>

- coolmath4kids.com

<http://www.coolmath4kids.com>

- Math Searches

<http://www.ipl.org/div/kidspace>

- Additional Practice Worksheets

<http://www.worksheetworks.com/>

<http://themathworksheetsite.com/subscr/index.html>

PLEASE SHARE ANY HELPFUL WEBSITES THAT YOU HAVE FOUND WITH HEIDI SHEPARD

COMMERCIAL GAMES THAT USE MATHEMATICS

Students develop their skills in an almost effortless way when they play games with each other and adults. The ages shown are suggested by the manufacturer, however, let the interest and motivation of your child be your guide when selecting and playing games.

Counting, Adding, and Subtracting

- Chutes and Ladders® (3+)
- Hi Ho! Cherry-O® (3+)
- Sorry!® (6+)
- Trouble® (5+)
- Uno® (6+)

Attributes, Patterns, and Geometry

- Crazy Eights – traditional card game (4+)
- Guess Who?® (6+)
- Guess Where?® (6+)
- Jigsaw puzzles
- Rummikub® (8+)
- Tangrams (5+)

Strategy and Spatial Perception

- The a-MAZE-ing Labyrinth® (8+)
- Battleship® (7+)
- Checkers (3+)
- Clue® Jr. (5+) and Clue® (8+)
- Connect Four® (7+)
- Jenga® (6+)
- Mancala (6+)
- Memory (many names exist for this game of matching face-down pictures) (3+)
- Othello® (8+)

More excellent games can be found on the Internet by searching under “educational math games.”

From the School District of Clayton Mathematics Committee (2011); [Adapted from Home Connections Handbook; Everyday Mathematics - Wright Group 2007]