



Show me the MATH!

For parents of students in primary and junior grades

How to help your child in math

- A parent is a child's first and most important teacher.
- Shared problem-solving situations help students to develop problem-solving and reasoning skills.
- Research shows that when there is a high level of family involvement students do better in school
- Students, teachers and parents need to show a positive attitude towards mathematics.
- Parents need to support, assist and understand math in order to support thinking in mathematics
- Parents need to become familiar with the math curriculum and understand what is being taught at each grade to understand what is expected from their child.
- Students learn mathematical concepts through exploring problems, explaining their mathematical thinking and reflecting on their learning
- Students learn by observing parents using math on a daily basis (ex. Shopping, time management, cooking, budgeting, ...)
- Students perform better when parents are involved in their education
- Rote arithmetic skills do not prepare students for mathematical problems
- Often parents interpret math as knowing the basic facts and rules of computation

The Ontario Math Curriculum is divided into 5 strands:

1) Number Sense and Numeration

- add, subtract, multiply, divide
- solving multi-step word problems
- fractions, money, decimals, percent, ratios

2) Patterning and Algebra

- create, describe and extend patterns
- recognize patterning rules
- determine missing terms in equations

3) Data Management and Probability

- collect and organize data
- graphing
- interpretation of data
- predict probability that an event will occur (coin, toss, spinners, dice,...)

4) Geometry and Spatial Sense

- 2D and 3D shapes/solids
- transformations (flips, slide, turns, rotations)
- symmetry, congruent
- grid and coordinate geometry

5) Measurement

- linear (mm, cm, m, km)
- capacity, volume, mass
- perimeter and area
- time
- temperature

**Read the curriculum!
Get familiar with it!**

MATH is everywhere!

MATH is important!

Problem solving model: (4 steps)

1) Understand the problem

- Reread the problem
- Identify the information given and the information that needs to be determined
- Discuss the problem to understand it better

2) Make a Plan

- Relate the problem to a similar problem solved in the past
- Consider possible strategies
- Select a strategy or a combination of strategies

3) Carry out the Plan

- Try the chosen strategy
- Do the necessary calculations (addition, subtraction, multiplication, division)
- Draw pictures, use manipulatives
- Use words, pictures/symbols to represent the steps in carrying out the plan or doing the calculations

4) Look back at the Solution

- Check your answer
- Consider extensions or variations
- Describe how the solution was reached, by explaining the solution

Parent Resources:

- Provide your child with manipulatives in order to explore mathematical concepts (ex. tooth picks, bread tags, popsicle, pennies, egg cartons, Cheerios, Smarties, mini marshmallows, ...)
- Go to the library and read math picture books
- Use a calculator
- Explore math websites
www.mathstories.com
www.edu.uwo.ca/essofamilymath/fmlinks.asp
<http://mathonline.peelschools.org>

***Encourage your child's
interest in MATH!***

Explore math as a FAMILY!

***Be positive and supportive
towards MATH!***

You can make the difference!