

“When students learn mathematics well, they are

- Confident in their ability to do mathematics
- Able to use mathematics to solve problems
- Able to understand why mathematics works the way it does.”

This is a small sampling of activities you can do at home with your child to help them with math. No worksheets or websites are required!

<p>Count Everything!</p> <p>Invite your child to count items like:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • forks, spoons, and plates on the table • socks, towels, and shirts as you fold the laundry • pets in the neighbourhood • leaves, trees, and bugs as you go for a walk or play outside • steps as you climb them 	<p>Play Games that Involve Counting</p> <p>Playing board games with number cubes (dice) and spinners, card games, dominoes, and counting games are wonderful opportunities to encourage your child to count in meaningful ways. At first, your child may count the dots on the game cubes (dice), but as they become familiar with the arrangements, you can encourage them to recognize the quantity of dots without counting.</p>	<p>Look for Patterns Everywhere</p> <p>Encourage your child to find simple repeating patterns everywhere. Patterns occur in quilts, baskets, fabrics, artwork, wallpaper, floor and wall tiles, dance, and in the natural world.</p>
<p>Play Card Games and Games with Number Cubes</p> <p>Play games with cards or number cubes (dice) that require your child to practice basic facts or mental mathematics.</p>	<p>Predict What Comes Next in a Pattern</p> <p>Show your child a repeating pattern that you have created or found. Cover part of the pattern and ask your child to predict what will come next in the pattern.</p>	<p>Make Patterns with Everyday Objects</p> <p>Encourage your child to make simple repeating patterns with everyday objects such as blocks and toys, with colours and shapes, and with actions and sounds. For example, ask your child to make a movement pattern such as clap, stomp, clap, stomp, clap, stomp...</p>

<p>Play Games that Involve Money</p> <p>Board games that involve counting money help your child practice this important skill. Playing store is another fun way to practice using and counting money.</p>	<p>Count Coins</p> <p>Count coins together. For example, if you count a collection of nickels together, practice counting by fives. Collections of dimes may also be used to count by tens.</p>	<p>Make Artwork Together</p> <p>Cut out a particular shape (for example, triangles) from construction paper. Use triangles to create a work of art together.</p>
<p>Practice Recalling Basic Addition Facts</p> <p>Practice one set of basic addition facts at a time until your child has quick recall of that set of facts. For example, practice the “and one more” (+ 1) facts by asking your child “what’s 1 more than 8, or what’s 8 and 1 more?” Then, practice another set of facts, for example “and two more” (+ 2) facts. Join the two sets and practice them together. Continue this until your child is able to quickly recall all the basic addition facts.</p>		<p>Pose Number Riddles</p> <p>Challenge your child to answer riddles about numbers. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I have more than 333 toothpicks but fewer than 335. How many toothpicks do I have? (334) • I am thinking of a number. When I am counting by ones, it comes after 799. What’s my number? (800) • I am thinking of a number. It has four hundreds, three tens, and five ones. What number am I thinking of? (435) <p>Challenge your child to make up riddles for you to solve.</p>

<p>Extend Patterns</p> <p>Create an increasing or a decreasing number pattern and ask your child to continue your pattern. For example, if you say 135, 125, 115, 105, ... (counting backward by 10), your child continues the pattern with 95, 85, 75,...</p>	<p>Practice Estimating in the Real World</p> <p>Estimate when you are shopping. For example, you might ask your child to explain if a \$10 bill would cover the cost of buying two items, for example, a box of cereal for \$3.98 and a salad for \$6.59.</p>	
<p>Talk about Time</p> <p>Talk about the time it takes to complete everyday tasks. Talk about seconds, minutes, hours, days, weeks, months and years.</p>	<p>Practice Sorting</p> <p>Take turns sorting 3-D objects and invite your child to explain the sorting rules using words such as sides, edges, corners/vertices, and faces; parallel, intersecting, perpendicular, vertical, and horizontal; or cubes or other prisms, spheres, cones, cylinders, and pyramids.</p>	<p>Read Clocks</p> <p>Read the time on a clock. Read both analog (a clock with moving hands) and digital clocks (only numbers) and both 12-hour (1 pm, 2pm) and 24-hour (13:00, 14:00) clocks. Talk about minutes to and minutes after the hour when describing time.</p>
	<p>Look for Graphs</p> <p>Look for graphs in magazines and newspapers. Notice the different kinds of graphs that are used. Talk about the information displayed on the graph.</p>	<p>Look for Symmetry in the World</p> <p>Look for shapes in the environment that have symmetry (that means the shape can be divided into two halves that are mirror images of each other). Look for symmetry in wallpaper, pictures, and capital letters.</p>

Hains Elementary Parent Capacity: *Literacy and Numeracy at Home for the Holidays*

All information from: Nova Scotia Curriculum *Ideas for parents to help children to practice their math skills* (April 2021)