

Monthly Math News

Across the District

November 2018



Learning Your Facts

Learning any operation should be more about thinking than memorizing. Here are two strategies that can help your child practice their facts:

Make It Fun

If your child collects toy animals, it may be fun to ask him/her, "How many legs do 6 horses have?" Your child can skip count the legs by 4's to see that $4 \times 6 = 24$. Or if he/she has friends over, give them a snack that they have to divide and share equally.

Use What You Know

Encourage your child to look for clues to help solve problems. For example, 8×7 , he/she could use other Math facts he/she knows to solve the problem. For example they may know that 4 groups of 7 is equal to 28, so they need to double that for 8 groups of 7. This can also be used for division. For 30 divided by 5, he/she might know that 10 divided by 5 is 2 and there are 3 10's in 30 and $3 \times 2 = 6$, so 30 divided by 5 must be 6.

Math At Home

Are you wondering how you could talk to your child about what they are learning in Math class?

-Show enthusiasm for what they are learning. Ask them each day at dinner or homework time what they learned in Math class that day. Let them explain the concepts and you follow up with questions. For example if they are learning about decimals, you could ask them how decimals are used in money.

-After they finish their homework, have them show you how they solved a few problems. As they explain their strategy to you, they are also reinforcing their own skills...and they will be proud to be teaching you!



Math Card Games

Card games are a great way to develop mental math skills.

Addition War goo.gl/h2c6nb

Multiplication War

<https://www.education.com/activity/article/multiplication-math-war-fourth/>



Investigations Math Program

The new Math program, Investigations, is one that uses a student-centered inquiry-based approach to mathematics. Students find there is more than one way to solve a problem and have to explain and justify their reasoning. You can ask your child the following questions to help build their Math minds: *Why did you solve the problem that way? Will your strategy always work? What else did you try?*

