

Maths At Home



GOING SHOPPING

- Encourage children to count their pocket money.
- Take them to the shops with you. Ask them to work out the cost of a couple of items and the change they should receive.
- Read receipts (as they contain decimal numbers) and signs around the shops. They can calculate what the cost of special offers are if an item is half price (50% off) or part of a buy 1 get one free scheme, for example.



COOKING AND FOOD

- Weigh out food items and measure liquids (in metric please). This provides very valuable practice in reading scales and working out the calibrations.
- Read how many g/ kg of food, or ml/ l of drink is in packets.
- Look at the 2D and 3D shapes you can see on food packaging.
- Talk to your child about how you are cutting up toast or pizzas into quarters and eighths to develop their understanding of fractions. Can they calculate what fraction of a cake each member of the family has eaten? Discuss what happens if you cut each piece in half again?
- For younger children setting the table and sorting cutlery, sorting clothes for washing according to size and colour, matching pairs of socks, gloves, shoes and sorting groceries in different ways by colour, shape or size is useful.



MEASURING UP AND READING CLOCKS

- Let children loose with a tape measure to measure items around the house ensuring they know to start from zero and they will soon notice the mm, cm and m and begin to understand the relationship between them. They will also be able to estimate the size of items, an important life skill.
- Can they find out the height of everyone in the family?
- Help them to read the time on 'normal' and digital clocks around them. They could set an alarm clock or help you programme the microwave.
- Young children need to talk about the order of their day, ie getting up, breakfast, lunch, tea, bedtime. Calendars are fun too.
- Older children could look at a TV Guide to find out programme times and calculate how long a programme lasts. Can they estimate how long it will take to reach a destination in the car?



SONGS, CALCULATORS AND GAMES

- Count numbers, like stairs up to bed, collections of shells, buttons on clothes, cars seen on a journey or toys in a tub. Practising counting in ones, twos, fives and tens or other steps, forwards and backwards. Children can recall times tables facts more easily if they can count 3, 6, 9, etc. Start counting from numbers other than zero, ie, start at 7 and count on in fives or start at 67 and count on in 30's . Try counting backwards too.
- Given a calculator to play with children will be fascinated and learn a lot about numbers and patterns too. They can enter 1+==== and watch the calculator count. Then try another starting number, ie 2+====. They can enter a number like 3457 and subtract 1000 or 100 or 10 or 1 and observe which column changes. They can solve mathematical problems which require numbers larger than they are able to calculate mentally.
- Sing number songs like 'Ten Green Bottles' or 'One Man Went To Mow' to encourage counting backwards.
- Play games or do puzzles like Ludo, Beetle, Dot to Dot, Number Jigsaws, Rummy, Pontoon, Yahtzee, Dominos, (Magnetic) Darts, Monopoly, Suduko, Mastermind, Connect 4 , Chess and Draughts can develop numeracy and in some cases logic and reasoning skills. So much fun and your child won't even know they're learning!

Where can I find websites to help my child with their Mathematics?

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

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

www.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/maths/

www.ictgames.com/

www.nrich.maths.org/public/

www.crickweb.co.uk/ks2numeracy.html

<http://www.primarygames.co.uk/>

www.primarygames.com

<http://www.subtangent.com/maths/index.php>

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/times-tables>

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/5-7-years/counting>

There are various websites aimed at helping parents to support their children's learning in maths.

- Oxford Owl has games, activities and a 'jargon buster' -

<http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/maths-site/expert-help--2/maths-in-school>

National Numeracy Parent Toolkit has tips and advice for different age groups -

<http://www.nationalnumeracy.org.uk/news/137/index.html>

APPS

<http://www.pcadvisor.co.uk/features/software/3380559/best-maths-apps-for-children/>

Squeebles

Mr Thome

Times Table Mountain

Math Bingo

Please note Gorefield Primary School takes no responsibility for the content of these websites/apps. Some of the above may incur charges.