

TRAVEL MATH FUN

Whether you are traveling around town or across the country; traveling creates many great opportunities to link math to your life! Here are some ideas for you to use this summer:

- Have your child be the "navigator". Help them to mark the route on the map and look for distance markers on the map and on the road. Write down the odometer before you begin.
- Ask your child to read road signs and look for signs with the speed limit. Ask if the speed limit is 65 miles per hour how far can we go in one hour? Two hours?
- When you stop for gas, have your child look at the pump to see how many gallons you bought and the cost per gallon. If 1 gallon costs \$1.50—what is the cost of 10 gallons?

- Have your child help you work out a budget for an upcoming trip. How much will meals and gas cost? Have them help you 'shop' for a bargain place to stay.



Here are some sources on the internet for more math fun ideas!

www.papajan.com

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

www.getsmarter.org

www.aaamath.com

www.atozteacherstuff.com

www.ed.gov/pubs

www.sdprn.org/bhssc

South Dakota PIRC—

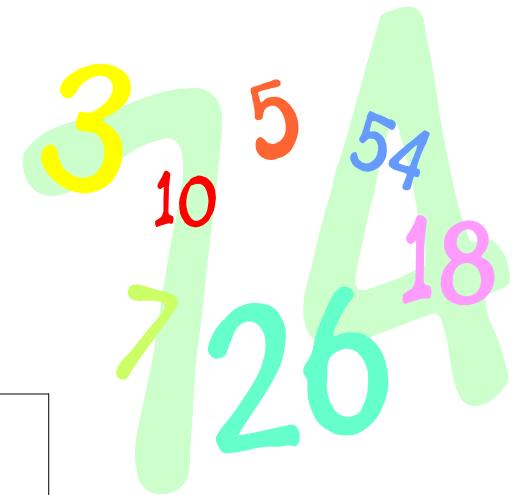
Parent Resource Network

PO Box 218; Sturgis, SD 57785

1-800-2199-6247 or (605)-347-6260

www.sdpirc.org

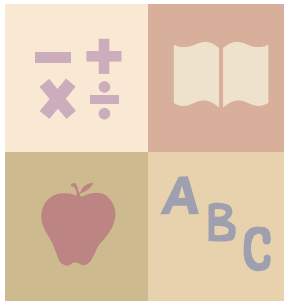
HOME MATH ACTIVITIES



Math is everywhere!

Cooking, shopping, paying bills, doing laundry; all of these everyday activities depend on good math skills. You can help your child understand the importance of math by showing them how math is a part of every day.

For example, if you let your children measure ingredients while you are cooking, you are helping them to



understand one of the way fractions and measurements are used in their daily lives.

This publication is intended to provide you with some ideas on how you can show your child how "school" math is connected to everyday events.

BE POSITIVE ABOUT MATH! Don't undermine your child's math ability or attitude by saying, "Math is hard!" "I didn't like math" or "I wasn't good in math either"

- Show how you use and value math on a daily basis. Cooking, measuring wood for a project, shopping for bargains, working on the computer, designing a garden... all of these activities and many more require math!!
- Play games that involve problem solving like dominoes, checkers, chess, or puzzles.
- Give your child opportunities to sort and match. They can sort laundry, silverware, nails. Match socks, colors of towels, or set the table.
- Take your child to the grocery store! Let them weigh the vegetables and figure their cost. Have them look at store ads and cut out coupons. Show them how much money the family saves using coupons or store brands. Or while waiting, estimate the total grocery bill and talk about rounding to the nearest dollar amount.
- Watch the news for the weather forecasts. Have your child mark on the calendar what the high temperature was predicted to be, then record the actual temperature daily. Keep track or number of sunny vs. rainy days for the month or the amount of rainfall.

- Give older children a certain amount of money each week for their own personal use. Help them to save for a more expensive object.
- Have your child keep track of how much time they are spending reading each day/week. Set a goal for a certain number of minutes and reinforce your child when they reach their goal.
- Encourage your child to do "math" in their heads. Being able to do a quick calculation of costs comes in handy!
- While walking outside count the different kinds of trees found on your block. Look at the shapes around you (windows are usually shaped like rectangles, ask about the shape of your house.) Go on a shape scavenger hunt in your home or neighborhood or have them count the number of circles in your backyard.

Learning math is not only finding the correct answer! It is also a process of solving problems and applying what you have learned to new problems.