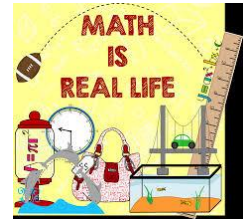


How can I help my child in MATH . . .

1. **Have a positive attitude about math** - Your feelings about math can greatly influence your child's perception of math. Think out loud when you are using math skills so your child will hear your thinking process.



2. **Problem solving with real-world math** - Math has evolved from the computation we most likely experienced in math class to an emphasis on problem solving. Computation is still important, but it is used to solve real- life problems. Teachers are now assigning tasks that ask students to think deeply about math and how that math is part of their real lives. It may be “real” problems that use math in a “real” way. There may be multiple ways to solve the problem. Examples of “real” math:



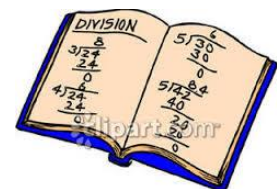
- Balance your checkbook
- Estimate the cost of the groceries in your cart
- Determine how much food to buy or make for a party
- Double a recipe or cut a recipe in half
- Figure the cost of lunch at a restaurant
- Calculate the cost of school lunch for the week or month
- Determine how long your child will need to save his/her allowance buy something
- Determine the number of miles driven in X hours
- Determine how long it will take to drive home going X mph
- Figure the cost of X number of minutes of cell phone use if you pay X cents/minutes
- Determine how many gallons of gas you can buy with X dollars



3. **Practice multiplication facts** - Your child is expected to know multiplication facts. Have your child bounce a basketball as he says the multiples of different numbers. For example, he can practice the multiples of 9 for each bounce 9, 18, 27, 36. Then he can say them backward: 81, 72, 63, 54. **Research shows that kinesthetic movement helps the brain learn facts.**

$$\begin{array}{ll} 5 \times 1 = 5 & 5 \times 2 = 10 \\ 5 \times 3 = 15 & 5 \times 4 = 20 \\ 5 \times 5 = 25 & 5 \times 6 = 30 \\ 5 \times 7 = 35 & 5 \times 8 = 40 \\ 5 \times 9 = 45 & 5 \times 10 = 50 \end{array}$$

4. **Homework / practice work not finished at school** - Cluster math problems on assignments into more manageable “chunks.” Break the assignment down by doing a few problems and checking them before moving on. Begin any assignment as early after school as possible. Provide frequent breaks when necessary.



5. **Review one previously learned skill each day** - Use a computer to find interactive tutorial games at your child's grade level. I have listed several websites at the bottom of my lesson plans. Some recommended websites:

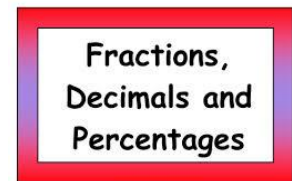
BrainPop.com
Virtual Nerd

Khan Academy
Study Jam

6. **PRACTICE! PRACTICE! PRACTICE!** - Encourage your children to do more than the assigned problems. Considerable practice is necessary for your children to become confident with their math skills. If the teacher only assigns the even problems, having them do some of the odd ones will strengthen their skills. The more time your child spends practicing, the sooner he/she will develop confidence in math.



7. **Math Vocabulary** - Help your children learn the vocabulary of mathematics. They will never get a real feeling for math nor learn more advanced concepts without an understanding of its vocabulary. Check that your children can define new terms. If not, have them use models and simple problems to show you they understand how the term is used.



8. **Use the On-line textbook for Extra Help** – Each student has his/her own username and password in the yellow folder for access to the entire textbook online as well as video tutorials for each lesson and interactive practice quizzes. The website is **my.hrw.com**

9. **Become familiar with what your child is doing in math** - Look through your child's math notebook, workbook and textbook. Check the teacher's lesson plans for the week by visiting the school's website.

JMS Website

<http://jaspermid.pickens.k12.ga.us/>

Mrs. Duncan's Website

<http://mrsduncanswebsite.weebly.com/>

10. **CONTACT YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER** –

Mrs. Duncan's Email

tammyduncan@pickenscountyschools.org

JMS phone #

(706) 253-1760 ext. 204