

Helpful Hints for Summer Math

Dear Parents,

Here is a list of suggestion to help you assist your child with math over the summer. Try to vary the way your child studies. Use real life math situations as much as possible. Using games and websites makes it a little more fun. Here we go.....

1. Keep flash cards in the car. Use on long trips. (You can always play a game in the car while quizzing your child orally. You give your child a fact. He answers and gives one back to you.)
2. Lower grades: use manipulatives around the house for sorting and counting. For example: count the number of forks, knives and spoons while putting the silverware away. How many pieces of silverware do we have altogether? How many more forks than spoons?
3. For fractions: cook with your child. Let her read the recipe and do the measuring. Have your child help divide food into equal portions and discuss using fractions.
4. For decimals: use money to add/subtract.
5. Drill on facts while playing catch or shooting hoops. You throw the ball and when your child catches the ball he gives you the answer. Jump rope while drilling math facts. The rhythm helps.
6. Use a deck of cards. Pull two cards and either add/subtract/multiply or divide the two numbers. (This can also be done with dice)
7. Let your child keep score while playing games.
8. Let your child add the bill at the restaurant before the waiter brings the bill. Figure out how much change you should get if you pay a certain way.
9. Have your child estimate the amount the groceries will cost by rounding off the amount of each item purchased.
10. Tell your child to pretend he had a certain amount of money. Let him go through the newspaper to “spend” the pretend money. What will he buy and how much will it cost. If he pays with a \$20 how much change will he get back?
11. For long division: have your child keep track of the mileage on the car after you fill the tank.
12. Computer games, DS games, video games that involve using math skills. An old favorite that the kids still love is Math Blaster. (Try Amazon.com)
13. There are apps for IPod that only cost \$1.00 (multiplication facts, basic math, etc.)
14. The Lake Shore Learning store in Lake Oswego has lots of games, manipulatives and workbooks.
15. There is a great book called Family Math by Jean Kerr Stenmark, Virginia Thompson, and Ruth Cosey. It is available on Amazon.com.

Check out the following websites:

<http://www.ixl.com/math/>

<http://www.sadlier-oxford.com/math/> (This is the website for the book we use in class).

<http://www.coolmath4kids.com/>

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

<http://www.games.exuberanteye.com>

<http://www.softschools.com>

<http://www.aplusmath.com>

Google a particular math skill in order to find more websites. Type in Mad Minutes on the internet for printable worksheets.