

Math in Everyday Life

Everyday life is full of opportunities to help your child learning and practice math. When you highlight math in the things you do each day, you show that math is important. Using words like *longer*, *shorter*, *first*, *last*, *likely*, *unlikely* in conversation, build your young child's understanding of math concepts. Playing games, reading books, and doing puzzles together builds your child's math skills and shows that math can be a lot of fun.

Suggested Everyday Activities

Count everything! Also count forward and backward from different starting places. Sing counting songs and read counting books. Practice skip counting by 2s, 5s, 10s, 25s, and 100s.



Play lots of games – board games, card games, and computer games – and put together puzzles!

Build toys like blocks and Lego®.



When shopping, have your child compare prices, estimate the total for a number of purchases, or estimate the change you will receive back.



Have your child measure things and estimate measurements, from times, temperatures, and ingredients when cooking, to areas and lengths when building and distances when travelling.



Develop your child's sense of time through scheduling and calendar activities.

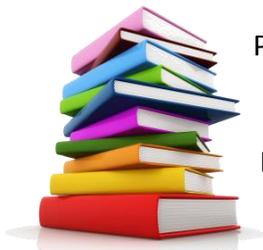
Make music, art, and dance a part of your child's life. These activities are filled with patterns.

Have your child gather and organize information to help him/her make decisions. Organizing and tidying a room involves sorting, classifying and putting things in order.



Planning routes and reading road maps develops an understanding of distance and space.

Discuss interesting graphs and charts in books, magazines, and newspapers.



Further at-home supports can be found on the school board's website at the following link:

<http://www.pvnccdsb.on.ca/en/parents/MathSupport.asp>

As a parent, there is a lot you can do to help your child learn and love math. Learn about the math that your child is studying in school. Look for math in everyday activities. Offer encouragement and have a positive attitude toward math. Parents can be a great role model, math mentor and coach.

Questions to Prompt Math Thinking

Kindergarten to Grade 3

I'm decorating this cake with blueberries and strawberries in a pattern. What berry should I put next?
We have leftover food. Which size of container should we use to store it for later? Why?
How many different types of vegetables are in the cart?
We have 14 candies and 6 of them are red. How many of the candies are not red?
Let's sort the laundry into white clothes and coloured clothes. Let's count the blue socks by 2s. How many are there?
Twelve guests are coming to the party. There are 4 of us. Do we have enough plates and utensils for everyone at the party?

Grades 4 to 6

We need to pay the cashier \$4.85. What combinations of coins could we use to give the cashier the exact amount?
It costs \$6 to buy 2 cartons of eggs. How much would it cost to buy 3 cartons of eggs?
This bag of soil is 20 L. How many 1.5 L pots can we fill to grow our tomato plants?
It takes us 25 minutes to get home from school. What time do we need to leave home to get to school by 8:50 a.m.?
How much do you think the groceries in our cart will cost? What are some strategies we can use to help us figure this out?
A new friend is being invited over. Write directions so that your friend will know how to get to our home.

Grades 7 to 12

One store is selling the game you want for 30% off \$26. Another store is selling the same game for 10% off \$19.99. Which store has the better deal?
This muffin recipe uses $1\frac{1}{4}$ cups of flour. How many cups will we need for $2\frac{1}{2}$ batches?
We can either buy a 5-kg bag of potatoes for \$3.50 or a 3-kg bag of potatoes for \$2.40. Which is the better value?
According to the weather channel, it will be 8°C today. The temperature will drop 10°C overnight. What will the temperature be tomorrow?
About how much is a 15% tip on the cost of this meal?
Predict changes in the batting average of your favourite baseball or cricket player, based on his/her performances in recent games.

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