Tips for Using Math over the Summer

Practicing math and applying math skills shouldn't stop over the summer. Here are some FUN ways to practice:

(full article at: www.putnamcityschools.org/Parents/TipsforParents/10TipsforHelpingYourChildrenBeGoodatMath.aspx)

- **Make math fun.** Spend time with kids on simple board games, puzzles, and activities that encourage better attitudes and stronger math skills. Even everyday activities such as playing with toys in a sandbox or in a tub at bath time can teach children math concepts like weight, density and volume. Check your television listings for shows that can reinforce math skills in a practical and fun way.

- **Mix in math.** The kitchen is filled with tasty opportunities to teach fractional measurements, like doubling and dividing cookie recipes.

- **Use real world examples to teach math.** Point out ways that people use math every day to pay bills, balance their checkbooks, figure out their net earnings, make change, and tip at restaurants. Involve older children in projects that incorporate geometric and algebraic concepts like planting a garden, building a bookshelf, or figuring how long it will take to drive to your family vacation destination.

- **Encourage children to solve problems.** Provide assistance, but let them figure it out themselves. Problem solving is a lifetime skill.

- **Tune into technology.** Encourage your child to use computers and the Internet at home, your local library, and after-school programs for tasks like developing charts, graphs, maps, and spreadsheets.

- **There is nothing to fear but fear itself.** Regardless of your own experience with school mathematics, you can encourage your child to develop a love of math through supporting their performance, helping with school projects, and discussing their homework. Help them appreciate how a strong foundation in math can lead to great opportunities in the future.

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**K-4 Fact Practice List**

- **K** – Know your numbers 1-10.
- **1st** – Know numbers 1-100. Addition facts (single-digit)
- **2nd** – Know numbers 1-1000. Subtraction Facts
- **3rd** – Know Multiplication Facts
- **4th** – Know Division Facts, Benchmark Fractions

**ALL GRADES:** SEE ARTICLE ABOVE ON SUMMER MATH TIPS FOR HOW TO USE MATH IN EVERY DAY LIFE

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“Hey Ma! The teacher said I DON’T need the right answer!!”

That’s right!! When we use math, we usually don’t need the right answer. Crazy? Not at all: 80% of the Math we do in everyday life involves ESTIMATION. When you’re at the grocery store, or the gas station, or you’re wondering how many more minutes until the movie is over, or how many degrees it is outside, or how fast are we are driving, an APPROXIMATE answer is usually enough. In school, kids learn how to ‘round’ numbers, which is an important tool to use when estimating. Estimation help us when we DO need the real answer because we already have an idea of what the answer should be. (I can’t tell you how many times I’ve been to a store or restaurant, and the price was WRONG!!) So this summer, no matter where you are, you can practice your estimation skills.

Math Practice Web Sites:
Symphony: www.mysymphonymath.com
X-tra Math: www.xtramath.org
Others:
www.mathplayground.com
www.aplusmath.com
www.factmonster.com/mathmoney.html
www.ixl.com

Things to estimate:
⇒ Time
⇒ Temperature
⇒ Speed
⇒ Miles
⇒ Money
⇒ Measurement

1'approximate' - close to the actual, but not completely accurate or exact.

Math Riddles!!

What number is under the parked car?

Answer: 87 (hint: look at the picture upside down)

Forest Learning Fair

On June 11th Forest hosted it’s first Spring Learning Fair. The fair showcased student work and projects completed throughout the year and gave parents an opportunity to see the academics in action, from Daily 5 to Math Centers.