

Easy Math Practice at Home

Let's face it: kids don't just learn at school. The more they practice math skills, the better they will achieve in class. Here are some simple tips for helping your child become a Math Master!

What Time Is It?

Make sure you have at least one ANALOG clock in your home - a clock with hands. Out of the blue, every now and then, ask your child what time it is. For now, stick with 5 minute intervals. You may even say, "Look at the clock. What time is it? What time will it be 15 minutes from now?"

Just the Facts, Ma'am!

Make math a part of every day. At breakfast, say, "You had three slices of bacon and your brother had four slices. How many is that in all?" or "You have 18 more Cheerios in your bowl. If you eat 7 of them, how many will be left?" or "There are fifteen toys on the floor. If your brother picks up six of them, how many do you have to pick up?"

Driving Home the Facts

While you're driving, call out simple addition and subtraction facts and have your child answer them. You can even make it a word problem: "We've gone through four traffic lights so far and we have three more until we're home. How many traffic lights is that in all?"

Keep Your Mind on Your Money & your money on your mind!

Count money all the time! Counting money is something that we use every day in real life! Reach into your pocket and pull out your change. Hand it to your child and have him count it. Every now and then, have a few coins on the dinner table by your child's plate and have her count it. Be sure to include quarters, dimes, nickels, and pennies. Have a certain amount of money and tell your child that if she gets the amount right, that's the number of minutes she can have for "screen time" - t.v., computer, iPod, or video game.