



Parent Tips for Numeracy Support



1) Promote and model a growth mindset, especially about math. Avoid statements like, “I was never good at math” and replace with “learning takes time, effort and patience and you are capable of learning this!”. Praise process over product: “you persevered even when it was challenging!”, rather than “you’re so smart!” When they say “I can’t do this”, you respond with “yet” and search for alternate strategies that may be more effective.

2) Play card, dice and board games at home for fact fluency – these are often much more engaging than worksheets or flash cards. Ask them how they figured out their solutions and promote the use of strategies because they develop number sense. The more they engage in thinking mathematically, the stronger at it they will become.

3) Find the math that is all around us – in nature, in the fridge (think of the all the fractions!), in the home, in books, etc. When we deliberately bring math to their attention, students better see its relevancy and value.

4) Baking, cooking, building, sewing are all great applications of math that can help develop better understanding.

5) At the grocery store ask your child to compare prices for the best deal, estimate totals, round to the nearest dollar or nickel, count change, etc.

6) In the car or at the dinner table engage in math talks; “Make 24” or in the car estimate distances, like 200 m or 1 km. Estimate heights of buildings, areas of parks, number of cars in a parking lot, etc.

7) Use rulers, scales, and measuring cups to estimate and then measure lengths, weights, capacities of regular household items. Make a game of it.... who is closest?

8) Solve math problems and riddles at home using these sites
www.bedtimemath.com, www.estimated180.com, www.wouldyourathermath.com
<http://wodb.ca/>

9) Promote the fact that being numerate is just as important as being literate and we are ALL capable of becoming numerate! Have FUN learning alongside your children©

See www.educatingnow.com for more information– look under ‘Parents’ on top banner and start with the 3 blog posts just for parents including more details, websites, activities and games

