

Automaticity

Research has shown quick recall of math facts (automaticity) is a predictor of success in all areas of mathematics. The best way to help your child with elementary mathematics learning is by helping him or her master basic addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division facts.

Fun ways to engage your child in practicing math facts

The internet has some excellent resources for developing math fact automaticity. Try several of the websites listed here and see which one your child likes the best!

www.sumdog.com

www.xtramath.org

www.arcademicskillbuilders.com

www.tutpup.com

www.playkidsgames.com

www.fun4thebrain.com

www.arcadediner.com

www.multiplication.com

www.brainormous.com

Apps, Apps, and More Apps...

Apps on cell phones are another great way to keep your child's math skills in good shape! Here are some winners.

Basic Math Deluxe

Bubbling Math

Alien Kids Math

Epic Math

Pizza Fractions

Counting Coins

Great Math Activities

Have a family game night! Card and dice games can be fun for the whole family.

Fact War

Rules: Deal an equal number of cards to each player. Keeps cards face down. The first player flips 2 cards and adds them. The next player flips 2 cards and adds them. (All face cards and aces equal 10). The player whose fact yields the highest answer takes the cards. If both facts yield the same value then each player puts 3 cards face down and flips over another 2 card: the greatest sum wins! Variation: Instead of adding, subtract or multiply.

Math is Everywhere!

On the Road

Road trips are a great way to practice math skills in a fun way.

Find My Number – create a chart listing the numerals and/or number words from 1 -100.

Have your child look for signs that contain number words or numerals and try to find them all. For example, “Two for One Deal” or “99 Restaurant.” One, two, and 99 can be checked off.

License Plate Math – Have each person in the car choose a license plate and write down its numbers. Compare numbers to decide whose license plate has the greatest sum or product.

In the Kitchen

Cooking is a great way to practice math skills. Have your child measure the ingredients. Show your child how to measure a cup, and then have him/her estimate how many cups would fill an empty container of milk. Practice tracing numbers in flour.

Out and About

When you go to a restaurant, keep the menu to practice money skills. Find the least expensive item on the menu, and then the most expensive item. Pick two price values (\$5 and \$10) and ask your child to find the menu items whose total cost is between those amounts.

At the Beach

Practice tracing numbers in the wet sand. Write addition or subtraction problems on the different sides of the beach ball. Toss the ball back and forth. Take a step back after each throw and the first person to drop the ball has to solve one of the problems.