



Merging math skills with reading skills

Here are some tips from our professional teachers to stimulate your child's math brain at the same time as their language brain.

Use words in math

- Verbalize what is happening using math vocabulary: (6 plus 2 equals 8, the sum of 4 and 3 is 7, 8 is greater than 7)
- Ask what other math words they know and share some they might not have heard of yet
- Encourage your child to “talk through” using different strategies to solve a problem (Grandpa said that he would give you pennies to equal the largest amount you can make from 3, 4, and 7. Child says, “If I add 3, 4, and 7, I’ll have 14 cents, but if I add 3 and 4, then multiply by 7 I’ll have 49 cents,” etc.)
- Create word problems with your child. – “If we are driving 10 kilometers per hour, how far can we travel in two hours?”
- Ask your child to create math problems for you to solve, or for you to solve together.



Read fun math books

Linking math with literature is a way to show children how math is part of every day life. Consider going on a math scavenger hunt at the public library to find these math-themed books:

A Cloak for the Dreamer by Aileen Friedman

Addison Addley and The Things That Aren't by Melody DeFields McMillan

Amanda Bean's Amazing Dream by Cindy Neuschwander

aRHYTHMetric: A book and a half of poetry about math by Tiffany Stone, Kari-Lynn Winters, and Lori Sherritt-Fleming

Chasing Vermeer by Blue Balliett

How Much, How Many, How Far, How Heavy, How Long, How Tall Is 1000? By Helen Nolan

Math Curse by Jon Scieszka and Lane Smith

Sir Cumference and the First Round Table by Cindy Neuschwander and Wayne Geehan

Spaghetti and Meatballs for All by Marilyn Burns

The Kids Guide to Money Sense by Keltie Thomas

These suggestions are provided by Tammy Moore, a teacher specializing in remedial learning at the non-profit READ Society. More tips at www.readsociety.bc.ca or by calling 250-388-7225.