

Strategies in Math



Making it Fun

Make it a game



Playing games with your student can dramatically improve performance in math because many games require:

- Calculation
- Logical thinking
- Communication of ideas

Make it a game



Games that require calculating

- Yahtzee
- Dominoes
- Card games
- Monopoly



Make it a game



Games that require logic

- Chess
- Checkers
- Tsuru
- Sudoku



Make it a game



Any game will help your student with communication. Try:

- Pictionary
- Charades
- Apples to Apples

Make it a game



Games you can play in the car

- 20 Questions
- I'm Thinking of a Number

Make it a game

I'm thinking of a number

Pick a number in your head. Multiply or divide it by another number then add or subtract a number and have your student figure out the answer.

Example: .

Do the math in your head	
start with 3	3
multiply 3 times 5	$3 \times 5 = 15$
add 4	$15 + 4 = 19$
Now say to your student, "I'm thinking of a number. If you multiply it by 5 and add 4 , it becomes 19 . What is it?"	

Make it about Real Life

Students can practice math while they learn "life skills."

When students want to buy things, have them calculate or estimate the cost including tax.

Tax Rate by Community	
8.5%	Vista
8%	Oceanside
8%	Carlsbad
8%	San Marcos

Is it worth the drive to Oceanside to save money on tax?

How much will you save?

How much will the extra gas cost?

Make it about Real Life

Students can practice math while they learn "life skills."

At the supermarket, have students estimate the growing cost of the groceries as they are added to the cart.



offer a small prize if they are within a few dollars of the actual cost!

Is the large box (bottle, can, bag) really a better deal?
Have your student figure that out!

Make it about Real Life

Students can practice math while they learn "life skills."

Have them learn to cook! They should be able to:

- Read a Recipe
- Follow the directions
- Measure ingredients
- Increase or decrease the amount of servings
- Estimate the cost of ingredients
- Estimate the cost per serving



Make it about Real Life

Students can practice math while they learn "life skills."

when you buy something that needs to be built or assembled, **make your student do it** and **don't help** (much)!

Students will learn to:

- Read and follow directions
- Select appropriate tools
- Deal with **frustration!**



More Practice?



- **cpm.org >> Parent Guides >> Extra Practice**
 - Core Connections 1 - 6th Grade
 - Core Connections 2 - 7th Grade
 - Core Connections 3 - 8th Grade
- **khanacademy.org**
- **mathabc.com**
- **youcubed.org**