

Family Math Activity Ideas, Grades K - 5

Activity	Concept	What You Can Do
At home	Numbers and Counting	<p><u>Younger children can:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help count items • Fold napkins in different shapes • Set the table, making sure there is one of everything for each person (one-to-one correspondence) • Simple addition questions ("We have 3 here and 4 here. How many in all?") • Simple subtraction questions ("I have 6. If I take away 4 how many will I have?") • Read the days and dates on the calendar • Practice counting by ones, twos, fives, or tens • Practice simple addition and subtraction facts • Make a number book- put one number on a page and draw that many items <p><u>Older children can:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Estimate larger numbers of items • Help calculate for recipes ("If 2 cups of rice will feed 6 people, how many cups do I need to feed 12 people?") • Practice multiplication and division facts
	Measurement	<p><u>Younger children can:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compare (more, less, heavier, etc.) • Sort items ("Can you put these in order from lightest to heaviest?") <p><u>Older children can:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measure for recipes • Measure items around the house • Set a timer • Estimate measurements ("How many cups of water do you think would fill this pitcher?") • Draw a scale map of the house
Out for a walk; in the backyard	Numbers and Counting	<p><u>Your child can:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Count things that he sees • Estimate- how many cars will pass by in a day, how many ants are on the sidewalk, etc.
	Geometry	<p><u>Younger children can:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Find different shapes around them <p><u>Older children can:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Figure out what shapes you might need to make a more complicated shape (a triangle and a square could make a house)

	Algebra	<u>Your child can:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look for patterns • Create patterns (step, step, hop, hop...)
	Measurement	<u>Your child can:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore the seasons and find patterns in nature • Compare ("Which tree is taller? Wider?")
At the store	Numbers and Counting; Measurement	<u>Younger children can:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Count objects you are buying • Identify coins and bills <u>Older children can:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Count out the money needed to purchase items • Predict what change will be received for simple amounts • Explore which item is the better buy • Weigh out objects to be purchased
Playing with toys	Algebra	<u>Your child can:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organize and sort objects like buttons, shells, coins, etc. • Create patterns using color, shape, size, etc.
	Geometry	<u>Your child can:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build with blocks- "What shape do you think these blocks will make if we put them together?"

Good math websites to explore:

- www.mathplayground.com
- <http://www.brainpop.com>
- <http://www.brainpopjr.com>
- <http://calculationnation.nctm.org/> (can play without logging in by using the "guest pass")
- <http://brainden.com>
- <http://www.figurethis.org/>
- <http://www.kenken.com>
- <http://www.mathplayground.com>
- <http://www.pbs.org/parents/earlymath/>
- <http://www.primarygames.com/math.htm>