

Real Life Math in Your Home

Conversations: Take every opportunities to talk about how you use math! Some ideas:

- Discuss price comparisons when you are shopping – ask your child to determine the best deal by comparing factors such as cost per unit, what quantities would be needed over time in your family, etc. What does 25% discount mean? How much do we pay in tax and on which things?
- Sports stats: compare for favourite teams. What do the numbers mean?
- If you are traveling somewhere this summer, discuss distance, how long it takes to get there, the price of gas, etc.



Play games in the car such as “Guess My Number” (or any range that your child is familiar with) and your child must try and guess to which you can reply “too high” or “too low”. “I Spy” numbers helps your child identify numbers in the world around them.

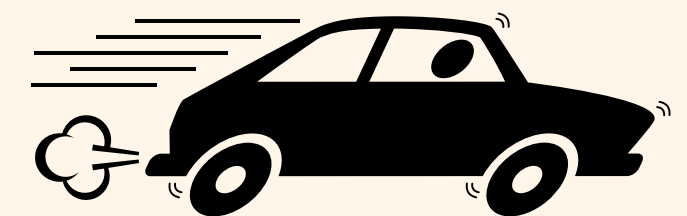


Count! Count! Count! Counting is foundational in math! There are so many things to count! Have your child count toys, kitchen utensils, items of clothing as they come out of the dryer, collections (such as buttons, pasta pieces or rocks) and any other items your child shows interest in counting. Once your child has mastered counting by 1s, practice skip counting!



Measurement: these are important concepts and easy to connect to real life!

- **Fractions:** Have your child help measure ingredients when cooking. Talk about what $\frac{1}{2}$ or $\frac{1}{4}$ means. Let them experiment – which is bigger? Why are some recipes in oz or cups and some in ml? Lots of important learning in measurement!
- **Time:** talk about minutes, hours, days on analog and digital clocks. Estimate and measure how long it takes to complete a task, walk to a friend's house, drive to their grandparents' house, etc.
- **Temperature:** how can we check temperature? What does it tell us? How can we use this information to decide what to wear for the day?
- **Rate:** read speed signs - what do they mean?, talk about how fast cars drive, how fast people walk, etc.



Money: even though many of our transaction are done electronically, children need to understand how our money system works. Counting money is a great way to practice basic number skills as well as fractions and decimals.

- Why is 25 cents called a quarter?
- How many dimes are in a dollar?
- What does this look like in a decimal?

Play store and let your child figure out how much to buy multiple items and how much change to give. So many ways to practice great life math skills with money!

