

## Daily Math Activities

Helping children to discover mathematics in their daily lives is an excellent way for families to enjoy mathematics together. Teachers can present the following ideas to parents in a weekly or monthly newsletter, particularly as a way of reinforcing concepts being taught in the classroom.



### Around the Home

- Explore opportunities for your child to make connections with mathematics through activities such as organized sports, instrumental music lessons, or art classes. Be sure to talk with your child about the math connections in these activities.
- Play board games, number cube (dice) games, card games, and dominoes. Solve puzzles together. Ask your child to tell you what he or she did to try to win the game or solve the puzzle. Then ask your child to tell you whether he or she would do the same thing next time, giving reasons why or why not.
- Have your child use anything with columns and rows, such as muffin tins or egg cartons, to practise multiplication and early division concepts.
- Sort a variety of items at home (e.g., toys, utensils, dishes, socks, mail, shoes, colouring tools, fabric, recyclables). Ask your child to describe the rule that you used to do the sorting. Then ask him or her to try sorting the same item(s) again using a new rule.



### In the Neighbourhood

- While waiting in line to pay for your groceries, ask your child to estimate how much the bill will be. This activity can also be done at the end of a meal at a restaurant.
- Play “I Spy” with your child, looking for and describing shapes in a playground, on a farm, in a town, or in a city.



### On the road

- Make the largest three-digit number possible from the numbers on a licence plate.
- Ask younger children to name the largest single-digit number and the smallest single-digit number on a licence plate and to call out the numbers in order from smallest to largest. Some children may just name each number.