

Summer Math Tips

1. Include Math in Everyday Activities

Whether it's going to the grocery store, working around the house, or baking, math is everywhere around us and there are many ways to continue learning math without being in school.

In the grocery store students can keep track of your spending by rounding the cost of items and adding your items. They can use multiplication when buying more than one item. They can also figure out the best bang for your buck by comparing price per unit in items such as toilet paper or cereal. Students can practice weighing fruits and vegetables to become familiar with using a scale. For an added challenge, students can work to figure out percentage discounts on your sale items.

Students can estimate the lengths of items in and around the house. They can use rulers or yardsticks to check their estimates and take it a step further by converting units such as inches to feet. They can also estimate the volume of liquids for different shape and size containers.

2. Create Math Flashcards

The way math is taught is changing. Students are required to focus more on problem solving and less on memorizing. This helps them to become better math students with have deeper understanding of math. With that being said, knowing their basic facts will help them to focus on how to solve a problem and be able to explain why. Students learn their basic facts through daily practice which can be an app on your phone, tablet, or computer or even flash cards.

Students can create their own flashcards and practice daily. They should master all basic facts (i.e. $8+4$, 8×4 ...) for addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division. They can begin with addition and once that is mastered they add on subtraction and continue until they are practicing them all. Another way is to mix them in the beginning and they practice different types each time they practice. Just making sure they practice daily is their key to being successful and all it takes is 5 minutes a day.

3. Practice skills that are overlooked

There are many math skills that are overlooked due to our advancements in technology. One of those skills is telling time on an analog watch. Students still need to practice this skill. They can use an analog clock or watch to be able to tell time to the minute and/or hour. They can use analog or digital watches or clocks to determine how much time has elapsed, determine how much time they need to complete a task, or keep on track with schedule time. Another skill is using a calendar. They can create a daily, weekly, or monthly schedule using a calendar as a planning tool to plan their summer. While planning their summer they can also practice reading and using maps, atlas, and calculating tolls.