



## Look for the math in daily tasks and share them with your child

Most parents read every day. They probably do math, too, although they may not realize it. Math is a natural part of life, and it's important to include your child in daily math activities.

With your child, you can:

- Take a trip. Before leaving, measure the air pressure in your car or bike tires. Also calculate how many miles you'll go. If you're driving, how much gas will you use? In the car, say a number between one and 10. Who can find a license plate with numbers that add up to the number you called out?
- Follow recipes. When preparing meals, let your child help with weighing and measuring. Discuss sizes, shapes and fractions. Find answers to questions such as, "How could we double this recipe?" and, "When we add  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup to  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup, what do we get?"
- Go shopping. Bring a calculator with you and keep a running tally of purchases. Use coupons to inspire math problems also. "If we use this coupon, will the product cost less than other brands?" "Which of these items is really the best deal per pound?"
- Save money. Help your child choose a goal, such as saving for a toy. Make a chart to help. How much does he need to save each week? How long will it take to reach the total? Keep track of how well he is doing. Then have fun shopping together!
- Play math games to relax. There are lots of fun math games you can play together online. You can also play a few classic games with cards and dominoes.

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### BUCKLE-UP EVENT

WHEN: Saturday May 9, 2009

WHERE: Lee Chevrolet in Frankfort

WHAT TIME: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

## Studies show missing school affects success

At the end of the year, it may be tempting to keep your child out of school for a few days. But studies show that missing days in elementary school can lead to problems.

When kids miss school, they miss out. They aren't there when the teacher explains how to multiply fractions. Or they miss the first chapter of the book the class will read.

When they come back, they have to work hard to catch up. Sometimes, they feel like they can't get back to where their classmates are. So they give up. Or they drop out.

A research study at Johns Hopkins University found that sixth graders who miss about one day of school a week have a 75 percent chance of never making it to graduation.

Make every effort to get your child to school every day--even as the school year winds down. You could be heading off big trouble later.

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