

Math Resources for Parents



Balanced Math Overview

Step 1: Computational Skills. Mental Math/Number Talks consist of a computation problem that is written on the board or given orally and the students solve the problem in their heads without writing anything down. After solving the problem, students are encouraged to share their strategies with the class. This helps kids to strengthen their understandings of our number system and engages them in thinking about numbers and allows them to add, subtract, multiply, and divide using mathematics that is meaningful to them. **Math Review** provides students daily, written, computational skill practice and reinforces prior learning of math skills. Quiz is given weekly or biweekly to assess progress.

Step 2: Problem Solving. Teaches students to communicate, using the language of mathematics, their thinking to peers, teachers and others. Students analyze and evaluate their math thinking and strategies.

Step 3: Conceptual Understanding. Lessons and activities aligned with district and state math standards that allow students to understand big concepts and ideas. TERC Investigations Curriculum provides for conceptual understanding.

Step 4: Mastery of Math Facts. The emphasis is put on fact recall through student understanding of patterns. Number relationships provide the foundation for strategies that help students remember basic facts.

Step 5: Common Formative Assessment. Provides teachers with valid feedback as to students' current understanding of State Standards; teachers then can modify and adjust instruction to meet specific learning needs.

<http://www.bham.wednet.edu/departments/currdept/familymathresources.htm> math resource links that offer a wide range of math activities to help children practice the concepts and strategies taught in elementary and middle school classrooms.

<http://www.k12.wa.us/CurriculumInstruct/Mathematics/default.aspx> links to the new Washington State math standards from the Office of Supervision of Public Instruction

<http://www.aplusmath.com/> Games, flashcards, puzzles, homework help

<http://www.aaamath.com/> Math topics with interactive practice, explanations and challenge games

<http://www.allmath.com> Flashcards, games, references, vocabulary

<http://www.coolmath4kids.com> Home of "The Number Monster", a great flashcard game ages 3-12

<http://www.counton.org/> This site features games, puzzles and competitions for all ages

<http://www.eduplace.com/kids/mw/> Math games, work with e-manipulatives, or view data in graph form

<http://www.figurethis.org/index.html> Interactive math problems to explain math concepts.

<http://www.funbrain.com/> Variety of interactive games and activities

<http://www.mathcats.com/contents.html> Playful explorations of important math concepts

<http://mathgoodies.com/games/> Multimedia, multi-modal activities on specific math concepts

<http://www.multiplication.com/> . Strategies, games, activities, worksheets, and teacher resources.

<http://nlvm.usu.edu/> National Library of Virtual Manipulatives is a three-year NSF supported project to develop a library of uniquely interactive, web-based virtual manipulatives or concept tutorials