



MATH

FOR FAMILIES

YOU ARE your child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important for your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support math learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic excellence!

FOURTH GRADE

What to expect:

In fourth grade, math continues to build on the skills developed in third grade. One of the main areas of study in fourth grade is using arithmetic to solve problems. In this grade, students will learn more difficult multiplication and division problems and add and subtract fractions and decimals.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Know multiplication and related division facts for whole numbers up to 12, such as $11 \times 12 = 132$ and $132/11 = 12$.
- Multiply and divide by 10, 100 and 1,000.
- Add and subtract fractions with like denominators. For example, $\frac{1}{4} + \frac{3}{4} = 1$.
- Read and write decimals to the hundredths place. For example, thirty-eight hundredths is the same as 0.38.
- Create patterns that grow and define the rule. The pattern 2, 10, 50, 250, for example, follows the rule of multiply by 5.
- Name, describe and classify shapes. For example, a four-sided shape with every side the same length is a square or a rhombus.

What to do at home:

- Learn multiplication through rhythm and song.
- Ask your child to multiply a speed limit that ends in zero by 10, 100 or 1,000 when you pass the sign on a roadway.
- Design a hopscotch board labeled with fractions and decimals. Ask your child to add or subtract as they hop.
- Ask your child to identify the place value of numbers behind the decimal point. For example, in 3.2, the 2 is in the tenths place, while in 49.75, the 5 is in the hundredths place with a value of .05.
- Ask your child to keep a running record on a tablet, notepad or phone of the different shapes and angles in your neighborhood.



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Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and want to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity contributes to success in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to spark curiosity, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime. Encourage your child to ask questions, be creative, discover answers and explore the world.

Cultivate your child's curiosity with guiding questions like these:

- What is your favorite food that is cut into pieces? What is the shape of the pieces?
- In the whole world, what is the tallest animal? The shortest?
- How long do you think it takes astronauts to travel to the moon?

Your child will have plenty of questions. It's okay if you don't have the answer every time. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

Fostering Communication

Families can play a role in helping their children learn to be good communicators by encouraging them to add new words to their vocabulary, express themselves and be good listeners. As children's communication skills grow, they are able to learn new ideas, get along with others and develop positive relationships and a strong self-image.

Cultivate your child's communication skills with questions like these:

- What is the most exciting adventure you could take?
- Who would you take with you on the adventure?
- What was your favorite part of the day and why?
- How did you help someone today?

Fostering Comprehension

Reading is a building block for success in all school subjects and a critical skill that develops with time and practice. Encourage your child to read for pleasure, and be a good role model by reading things you enjoy. Use the following questions to help fourth-graders understand what they are reading.

BEFORE READING

- Skim through the book and chapter titles. What do you think the book will be about?
- How is this book like another one you have read or a movie you have seen?
- What type of book did you choose (fiction, biography, graphic novel, etc.)? Why?

DURING READING

- What do you think will happen in the next chapter?
- Who is the main character? Who are the supporting characters?
- What words can I help you understand?

AFTER READING

- Could this story take place in today's world? Why?
- What lesson do you think the author wants the reader to learn? What makes you think that?
- If you were one of the characters in the book, how would you have ended the story? Why?