

Parents as Partners

MATH AT HOME



CHAPTER 2

Fun and games

Playing games is one of the best ways to make math fun and engaging.

When your child is playing a game, he/she is often having so much fun that he/she forgets that it's math. Games are a great way to provide opportunities for practice and to support strategic thinking.



Board games and card games are fun ways for families to engage in math together. For example, cribbage is a great game to practice addition and use strategic thinking. Games can often be found at the local dollar store.

Solving logic puzzles is also an excellent way to do math together.

Puzzles, such as sudoku, involve logic and reasoning, which are valuable skills to develop. You can often find puzzles in the local newspaper.

If your child enjoys using the computer, spend some time together checking out online games and search for free games that your child enjoys playing that allow him/her to practice math.

These websites might be a good place to start:

- ◆ oame.on.ca/mathies
- ◆ illuminations.nctm.org
- ◆ <http://nlvm.usu.edu>
- ◆ cemc2.math.uwaterloo.ca/mathfrog/
- ◆ <http://nrich.math.org>
- ◆ Coolmath4kids.com



Enjoy the math games being sent home with students in Grades 1 to 6.

When games are played co-operatively, rather than competitively, your child is more likely to share his/her thinking and strategy. Take the opportunity to share your strategy to support your child's thinking.