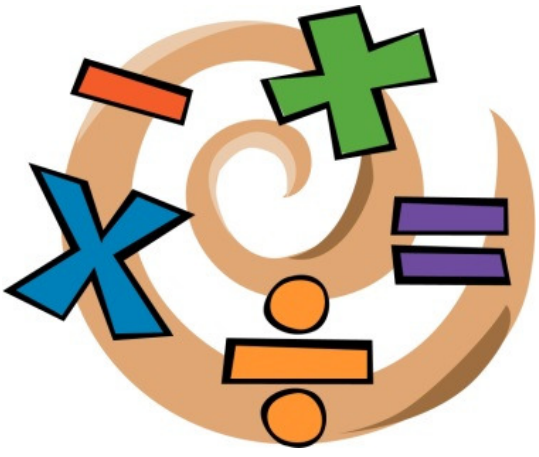
William Law CE Primary

Helping your Child with Maths



CALCULATION

The maths work your child is doing at school may look very different to the kind of 'sums' you remember. This is because children are encouraged to work mentally, where possible, using personal jottings to help support their thinking. Even when children are taught more formal written methods (from late year 3 onwards), they are only encouraged to use these methods for calculations they cannot solve in their heads.

Please refer to our school website under Parent-Zone Helping your child Learn for further guidance and support.

When faced with a calculation problem, encourage your child to ask…

Can I do this in my head?

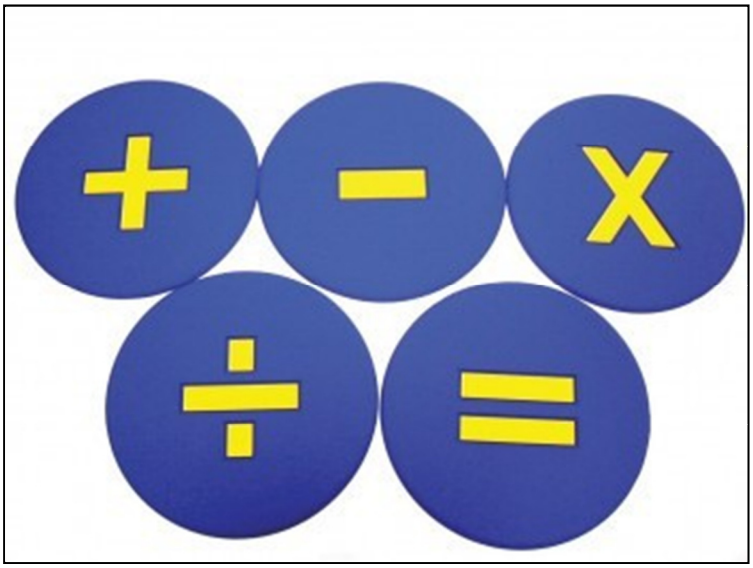
Could I do this in my head using drawings or jottings to help me?

Do I need to use a written method? Should I use a calculator?

Also help your child to estimate and then check the answer.

Encourage them to ask…

Is the answer sensible?



COUNTING IDEAS

Practise chanting the number names.
Encourage your child to join in with you. When they are confident, try starting from different numbers—4, 5, 6, etc.

Sing number rhymes together—there are lots of commercial CD's and download available.

Give your child the opportunity to count a range of interesting objects; e.g. coins, pasta shapes, buttons etc. Encourage them to touch and move each object as they count.

Count things you cannot see or touch! Try lights on the ceiling, window panes, jumps, claps or oranges in a bag in the supermarket.

Play games that involve counting; e.g. snakes and ladders, dice games, games that involve collecting objects.

Look for numerals in the environment. You can spot numerals at home, in the street or when out shopping.

Cut out numerals from newspapers, magazines or birthday cards. Then help your child to put the numbers in order.

Make mistakes when chanting, counting or ordering numbers.
Can your child spot what you have done wrong?

Choose a number of the week; e.g. 5.
Practise counting to 5 and on from 5. Count out groups of 5 objects —5 dolls, 5 bricks, 5 pens etc.
See how many places you can spot the number 5.

REAL LIFE PROBLEMS

Go shopping with your child to buy two or three items. Ask them to work out the total amount spent and how much change you will get.

Buy some items with a percentage extra free. Help your child to calculate how much of the product is free.

Plan an outing during the holidays. Ask your child to think about what time you will need to set off and how much money you will need to take.

Use a TV guide. Ask your child to work out the length of their favourite programmes. Can they calculate how long they spend watching TV each day / each week?

Use a bus or train timetable. Ask your child to work out how long a journey between two places should take? Go on the journey. Do you arrive earlier or later than expected? How much earlier/later?

ABERSOCH Stryd Fawr/High Street	0900	1000	1100	1200	1300	1400	1500	1600	1700	1800
Parc Gwyn	0906	1006	1106	1206	1306	1406	1506	1606	1706	1806
Bwlchtocyn Ldn Centre	0912	1012	1112	1212	1312	1412	1512	1612	1712	1812
Pferm y Cim	0916	1016	1116	1216	1316	1416	1516	1616	1716	1816
ABERSOCH Stryd Fawr/High Street	0920	1020	1120	1220	1320	1420	1520	1620	1720	1820
ABERSOCH Stryd Fawr/High Street	0925	1025	1125	1225	1325	1425	1525	1625	1725	1825
Llanengan	0930	1030	1130	1230	1330	1430	1530	1630	1730	1830
Porth Neigwl/Hell's Mouth	0934	1034	1134	1234	1334	1434	1534	1634	1734	1834
Llanengan	0938	1038	1138	1238	1338	1438	1538	1638	1738	1838
Green Pastures	0940	1040	1140	1240	1340	1440	1540	1640	1740	1840
Ty Newydd	0941	1041	1141	1241	1341	1441	1541	1641	1741	1841
ABERSOCH Stryd Fawr/High Street	0945	1045	1145	1245	1345	1445	1545	1645	1745	1845
ABERSOCH Stryd Fawr/High Street	0950	1050	1150	1250	1350	1450	1550	1650	1750	1850
Bryn Cethin Bach/Ty'n Y Mur	0952	1052	1152	1252	1352	1452	1552	1652	1752	1852
Llanglan	0957	1057	1157	1257	1357	1457	1557	1657	1757	1857
Rhandir	1003	1103	1203	1303	1403	1503	1603	1703	1803	1903
ABERSOCH Stryd Fawr/High Street	1010	1110	1210	1310	1410	1510	1610	1710	1810	1910
ABERSOCH Stryd Fawr/High Street	1015	1115	1215	1315	1415	1515	1615	1715	1815	1915
Warren	1019	1119	1219	1319	1419	1519	1619	1719	1819	1919
Canolfan Gardde/Garden Centre	1024	1124	1224	1324	1424	1524	1624	1724	1824	1924
ABERSOCH Stryd Fawr/High Street	1030	1130	1230	1330	1430	1530	1630	1730	1830	1930

Help your child to scale a recipe up or down to feed the right amount of people.

Work together to plan a party or meal on a budget.

These are just a few ideas to give you a starting point. Try to involve your child in as many problem-solving activities as possible. The more 'real' a problem is, the more motivated they will be when trying to solve it.

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PRE-PACKED HAM	
REDUCED PRICE	0.69
FINEST HAM	
REDUCED PRICE	0.69
MULTISAVER (-0.98)	
SUB-TOTAL	1.38
MULTISAVER SAVING	-0.98
TOTAL SAVINGS	-0.98
TOTAL TO PAY	0.40
CASH	1.00
CHANGE DUE	0.60

PRACTISING NUMBER FACTS

Find out which number facts your child is learning at school (addition facts to 10, times tables, doubles etc). Try to practise for a few minutes each day using a range of vocabulary.

Have a 'fact of the day'. Pin this fact up around the house. Practise reading it in a quiet, loud, squeaky voice. Ask your child over the day if they can recall the fact.

Play 'ping pong' to practise complements with your child. You say a number. They reply with how much more is needed to make 10. You can also play this game with numbers totalling 20, 100 or 1000. Encourage your child to answer quickly, without counting or using fingers.

Throw 2 dice. Ask your child to find the total of the numbers (+), the difference between them (-) or the product (x). Can they do this without counting?

Use a set of playing cards (no pictures). Turn over two cards, ask your child to add or multiply the numbers. If they answer correctly, they keep the cards. How many cards can they collect in 2 minutes?

Play Bingo. Each player chooses five answers (e.g. numbers to 10 to practise simple addition, multiples of 5 to practise the five times tables). Ask a question and if a player has the answer, they can cross it off. The winner is the first player to cross off all their answers.

Give your child an answer. Ask them to write as many addition sentences as they can with this answer (e.g. 10 = D + D). Try with multiplication or subtraction.

Give your child a number fact (e.g. 5+3=8). Ask them what else they can find out from this fact (e.g. 3+5=8, 8-5=3, 8-3=5, 50+30=80, 500+300=800, 5+4=9, 15+3=18). Add to the list over the next few days. Try starting with a x fact as well.

B	I	N	G	O
14	20	32	52	71
10	27	42	55	64
7	23	FREE	58	69
11	28	34	56	72
15	25	33	53	66

SHAPES AND MEASURES

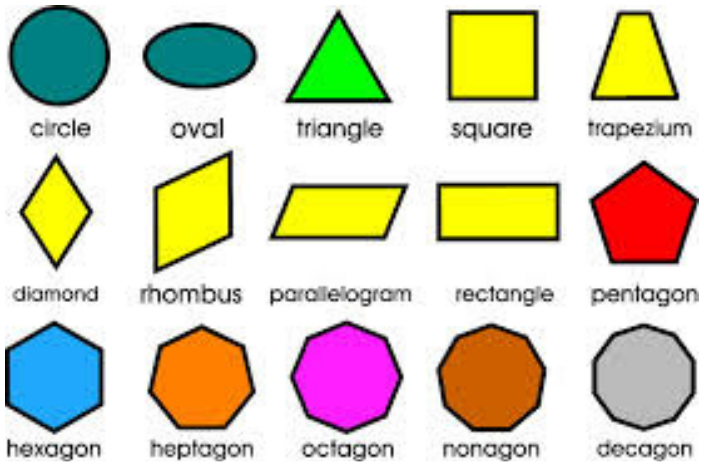
Choose a shape of the week e.g. cylinder.
Look for this shape in the environment (tins, candles etc). Ask your child to describe the shape to you (2 circular faces, 2 curved edges ..)

Play 'guess my shape'. You think of a shape.
Your child asks questions to try to identify it but you can only answer 'yes' or 'no' (e.g. Does it have more than 4 corners? Does it have any curved sides?)

Hunt for right angles around your home. Can your child spot angles bigger or smaller than a right angle?

Look for symmetrical objects. Help your child to draw or paint symmetrical pictures / patterns?

Make a model using boxes/containers of different shapes and sizes. Ask your child to describe their model.



Practise measuring the lengths or heights of objects (in metres or cm). Help your child to use different rulers and tape measures correctly. Encourage them to estimate before measuring.

Let your child help with cooking at home. Help them to measure ingredients accurately using weighing scales or measuring jugs. Talk about what each division on the scale stands for.

Choose some food items out of the cupboard. Try to put the objects in order of weight, by feel alone. Check by looking at the amounts on the packets.

Practise telling the time with your child. Use both digital and analogue clocks. Ask your child to be a 'timekeeper' (e.g. tell me when it is half past four because then we are going swimming).