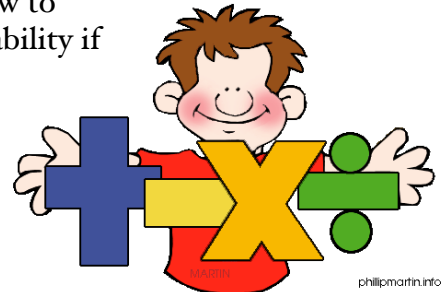


NEWSLETTER

Some Important Things Your Child Needs to Know About Mathematics

You can help your child learn math by offering insights into how to approach math. Your child will develop more confidence in math ability if he or she understands the following points:



1. **Problems Can Be Solved in Different Ways.** Although most math problems have only one answer, there may be many ways to get to that answer. Learning math is more than finding the correct answer; it's also a process of solving problems and applying what you've learned to new problems.

2. **Wrong Answers Sometimes Can Be Useful.** Accuracy is always important in math. However, sometimes you can use a wrong answer to help your child figure out why a mistake was made. Analyzing wrong answers can help your child to understand the concepts underlying the problem and to learn to apply reasoning skills to arrive at the correct answer. Ask your child to explain how they solved a math problem. The explanation might help you discover if your child needs help with number skills, such as addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, or with the concepts involved in solving the problem.

3. **Take Risks!** Help your child to be a risk taker. Help your child see the value of trying to solve a problem, even if it's difficult. Give your child time to explore different approaches to solving a difficult problem. As he works, encourage him to talk about what he is thinking. This will help him to strengthen math skills and to become an independent thinker and problem solver.

4. **Being Able to Do Mathematics in Your Head Is Important.** Mathematics isn't restricted to pencil and paper activities. Doing math "in your head" (mental math) is a valuable skill that comes in handy as we make quick calculations of costs in stores, restaurants or gas stations. Let your child know that by using mental math, her math skills will become stronger.

5. **It's Sometimes OK to Use a Calculator to Solve Mathematics Problems.** It's OK to use calculators to solve math problems—sometimes. They are widely used today, and knowing how to use them correctly is important. The idea is for your child not to fall back on the excuse, "I don't need to know math—I've got a calculator." Let your child know that to use calculators correctly and most efficiently, she will need a strong grounding in math operations—otherwise, how will she know whether the answer she sees displayed is reasonable!



Box Tops for Education

You can help earn cash for our school every time you shop for groceries! **Clip Box Tops** coupons from hundreds of your favorite products found at your local grocery store. Each coupon is **worth 10¢** when we redeem them. To turn Box Tops in, simply send them to school. The PLA's volunteer Box Tops coordinator will collect your Box Tops and send them to Box Tops for Education.

Scrip

Scrip is simply a word that means "substitute money." In other words, **Scrip is just plain old gift cards**. Scrip raises money for Plew through **purchases you would make anyway**. Scrip participating retailers agree to sell gift certificates to Plew at a discount. For instance, a certain store might agree to sell Plew \$25 gift cards for \$20. Plew then sells the gift card back to you for \$25. Plew makes \$5 on the sale, and you still have your original \$25 to spend at the store. **You earn money for our school without spending a single additional penny**. Scrip can be used for just about any household purchase including food, clothing, entertainment, gasoline and even dining out. **Scrip could replace every other fundraiser!** An organization of 150 families easily spends between one and two million dollars per year on food, clothing and other essentials. If these families use Scrip for these purchases, they can raise as much as \$40,000 to \$80,000 per year for their organization.

Scrip order forms will be sent home twice a month in your child's Tuesday folder, or you can download them from plew.org. Then decide which businesses you think you'll be shopping with during the next few weeks. For instance, if you know you'll spend about \$150 on groceries at Winn-Dixie, you can order that much in Winn-Dixie gift cards. Send your order back to school in the Tuesday folder.

Papa John's Pizza Night

It's as easy as getting a pizza once a month to help out the school! We have Pizza Nights scheduled for the first Thursday of the month. Plew will receive 20% of the profits. Also, if you use Scrip for Papa John's, Plew will get an additional 8%! Place your price label on the Papa John's flyer and turn it in to your child's teacher.

Volunteer Opportunity

Want to volunteer but you just don't have a lot of time???! The Terracycle Team needs **YOU every Tuesday & Friday from 1:30-2:00** in the cafeteria! No experience necessary!!! Help save the environment and raise money for our school one drink pouch at a time!!

Calendar

October 29, 2009

Boosterthon Fun Run

October 30, 2009

Fall Party 1:30

November 4, 2009

Early Release.

Report cards sent home.

November 5, 2009

Papa John's Night.

November 11, 2009

No School.

This Week:

READING

"The Planets on our Solar System"
Spelling Unit 2.4

MATH

Subtract with regrouping.
Timed test on addition.

SCIENCE

Classifying animals.
Types of vertebrates

SOCIAL STUDIES

Landforms.

LANGUAGE ARTS

Possessive nouns.
Cursive upper case letters P, Q, R, S, T, U