



May 15, 2020

Distance Learning Parent Newsletter, Issue 7

English Learner Support Division
California Department of Education

A Letter from the California Department of Education (CDE)

DEAR PARENTS,

Each week this newsletter will focus on a different theme and will provide information and resources to parents on that theme.

This week the topic is mathematics. Doing math just takes practice and a positive attitude. With those two things, everyone can enjoy success with mathematics! According to First 5 California, math is all around us and children begin learning the basics as early as infancy. Building these important life skills from an early age does not need to feel daunting. Math can be casual, simple, and most of all, fun!

The Six DO's for Families and Children Learning Math

1. Be positive
2. Link mathematics with daily life
3. Make mathematics fun
4. Learn about mathematics-related careers

5. Have high expectations for your children
6. Support in completing the task—do not do it for them!

New Informational Resources

CDE Math Resources for Parents and Guardians

This web page from the CDE includes information and resources for parents and guardians that explain mathematics instruction used today and provide suggestions for supporting their child's academic success.

CDE Mathematics Resources for Parents and Guardians web page at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/re/cc/mathinfoparents.asp>

First 5 California Early Math

The First 5 California Early Math web page includes a page on adding math to your routine. According to First 5 California, the key to remember is that early numeracy begins through play because that is how children learn best. You can easily incorporate math into things you are already doing throughout your day. They offer simple suggestions of games and activities that parents can do to support young children in learning math. This web page is also available in Spanish. Click on “español” in the upper right corner to change the language.

First 5 California Early Math: Adding Math to Your Routine web page at <http://www.first5california.com/learning-center.aspx?id=30&sub=147>

Early Math Project

The Early Math Project website provides information for parents and guardians by the child's age/grade level: infant/toddler to grade 3. By clicking on an age/grade level, parents can see what math concepts children are ready to learn at this age and how they can support their child to develop math skills in the areas of number sense, classification and patterns, measurement, and geometry.

Early Math Project website at <https://www.earlymathca.org/>

Parent Teacher Association (PTA) Family Resource Guide: Helping Your Child with Today's Math

This math guide from the PTA helps parents understand how math is taught today and how and why we do math. This guide, along with other guides focused on a variety of topics such as literacy, preparing your child for school, and helping your teen succeed in high school, are available in English and Spanish.

PTA Family Guides, Help Your Child Success in Key Learning Areas web page at <https://www.pta.org/home/family-resources/Family-Guides#6>

Informational Resources Included Every Week

School Lunch Information: CA Meals for Kids

Parents can still pick up school lunches during COVID-19 related school closures. Use the "CA Meals for Kids" mobile app to find meals or you can contact your school district directly for more information. Some districts now offer home delivery for school lunches. Parents should contact their child's school to see if the school has opted into this optional program.

CDE News Release: CA Meals for Kids App Update at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/497627>

Getting Internet Access

If you do not have access to the internet at home, there are several companies offering service to families. Contact the companies listed on the link below to discuss available plans.

Getting Internet Access: Available Plans at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/498321>

Home Learning Resources

Below are free recommended resources that you can use with your children at home or they can use on their own.

Early Learning Resources

Bedtime Math

Bedtime Math offers activities to keep children's math skills sharp without screen time. Tasks include the amount of prep time required and most can be done with household items. The tasks are meant to help kids learn to love math. Choose from Daily Math and Games at Home, or download the apps (Bedtime Math for children ages 3 through 9 or MiniMath for children getting ready for Kindergarten) and take them everywhere you go. This website and apps include resources for children pre-kindergarten through age 9.

<http://bedtimemath.org/fun-math-at-home/>

Development and Research in Early Math Education (DREME) Early Math Kit

The At-Home Early Math Learning Kit for Families: Ideas for Supporting Young Children's Math Skills During Coronavirus and Beyond from Stanford University is available in English and Spanish and includes tips for bringing math into story time and

ideas for recipes, snacks, and games that help develop math skills. Click on “disponible en español” to change the page to Spanish. This kit is appropriate for families with young children.

<https://bit.ly/DREMEmathkit>

Resources for Kindergarten through Grade 8

Curriculum Associates: Supporting Students Away from School, Resources for Educators and Families

This web page includes printable at-home learning activity packs for students in kindergarten through grade 8. Each pack is designed to reinforce key concepts for each grade level while students are learning remotely. This guide is also available in Spanish. Click “Accesar guía para familias en español” to access the guide and activities in Spanish.

Curriculum Associates: Supporting Students Away from School, Resources for Educators and Families web page at <https://bit.ly/CurriculumAssociatesMath>

Social Media and Email

To stay up to date with new resources and information, follow the CDE English Learner Support Division on Twitter [@MultilingualCA](https://twitter.com/MultilingualCA).

To subscribe to the English Learner Updates Listserv, send a blank email to join-english-learner-updates@mlist.cde.ca.gov.