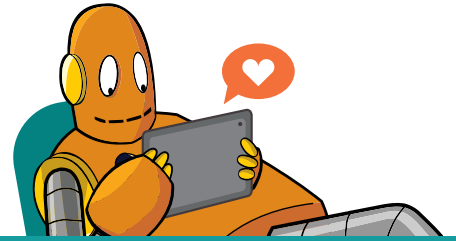
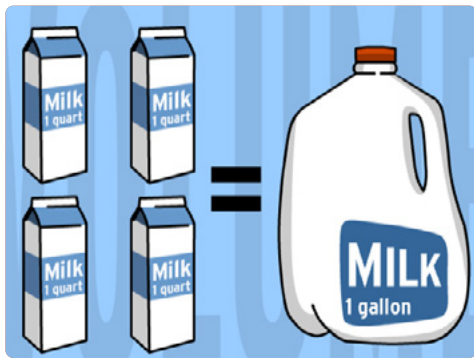


BrainPOP at Home



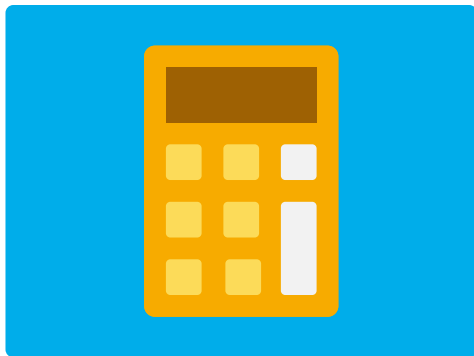
Make math real and FUN this summer! Discover, play, and learn with your family.

Some children are math mavens, excited by the challenge of a mathematical puzzle. Others are more reluctant, lacking confidence in their math ability. A child's mindset about math, or any school subject, can greatly affect achievement. Studies find that the more positive and confident a child feels, the greater success she or he will have. Luckily, summertime offers a perfect opportunity for children to discover that math is REAL and FUN. Following are ideas and tips for making real-life connections and experiencing math in action.



MAKE MATH REAL

"When am I ever going to use this?" No doubt your child has asked you this question... many times! This summer find answers to the question by exploring BrainPOP's [Practical Math](#) unit. Or, check out BrainPOP Jr. movies that focus on math kids use every day, such as [Time](#) and [Money](#). Explore one or two topics per week throughout the summer. With your child, watch the movie to see how the always whimsical Moby applies the skill to real life, from estimating a budget and splitting a bill to using statistics for purchasing decisions, and much more!



THE NATURE OF MATH

Nature is bursting with math and summer is a great time to discover its many forms! You may want to watch the BrainPOP movie [Fibonacci Sequence](#) to find out how and why this sequence shows up in nature. Then take a hike, stopping along the way to notice the many epic examples of math in all its natural glory. Here are some things you may see. Keep a list or take pictures along the way:

- Radial symmetry in butterflies, leaves, and spiderwebs.
- Fibonacci sequence in flowers, such as a sunflower.
- Shape of honeycombs (according to mathematicians, a honeycomb's shape offers the perfect balance of strength and space required for honey storage).
- Patterns in rainbows, markings on animals' coats, ripples in a pond.



FAMILY TRIP

If your family is taking a trip this summer, use this opportunity to practice important math skills. Before heading out, have your child use an atlas to calculate how many miles you'll drive to your destination. Figuring out your car's fuel efficiency is another real-life math challenge. To solve this problem, your child has to use a variety of operations: adding the cost to fill the tank over the course of the trip.; dividing miles you drive per gallon of gas; multiplying cost of a fill-up based on miles you plan to drive. After you arrive at your destination, challenge your child to figure out your average speed.

Younger ones can get in on the traveling math fun, too! While on a road trip, challenge them to count everything, from trucks and cars to trees and traffic lights! Continue the counting fun when you reach your destination by watching the BrainPOP Jr. movie [Counting On](#).



CALLING ALL COOKS!

From measuring to timing, math is a main ingredient for cooking! Designate one night per week this summer when you and your child make a recipe together. Let your child do the math heavy lifting. For example, if you are doubling a recipe, encourage your child to figure out which operation to use and calculate the amount you need of each ingredient.

Brush up on measuring skills by exploring the BrainPOP topics [Customary Units](#); [Metric Units](#); and [Measuring Matter](#). For younger kids, review these BrainPOP Jr. topics: [Cups, Pints, Quarts, Gallons](#); [Grams and Kilograms](#); [Ounces, Pounds, and Tons](#); and [Temperature](#).



SHOP TIL YOU DROP!

Ok, maybe not til you drop! But seriously, shopping is a great way for your child to brush up on real-life math skills. Whether at the supermarket comparing prices of apples or calculating the percentage off those cool new kicks, challenge your child to do the calculating for you. Engage your child with prompts such as, "If the grapes are \$2.49 per pound and we buy 6 ounces, how much will they cost?" or "If the jeans are 10% off the price, how much do they cost?"

BATTER UP!

Take your kid out to a ballgame this summer to see math in action. From speed of a pitch to batting averages, point out that experts use this data to evaluate players performance which affect their rankings. Bring math to life by using a scorecard during the game. After the game, keep the fun and learning going by looking up favorite players and calculating their statistics.

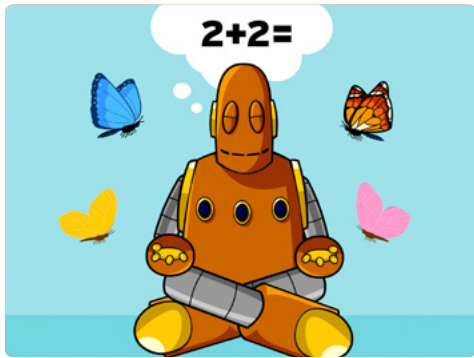
Still got baseball on the brain? Watch BrainPOP's [Baseball](#) movie or BrainPOP Jr.'s [Jackie Robinson](#) movie.



LAUNDRY SORT

Bring some math fun to the ho-hum chore of laundry. Here are some ideas:

- After pairing up socks, skip count by two to figure out the total number of socks in the laundry.
- Organize laundry by family member then practice comparing numbers by calculating who has the most and least. You can also do this by categorizing by color to see what colors your family wears most and least.
- Point out symmetry while folding laundry. When folding a shirt, for example, show how the sleeves line up together and review that the fold is called a line of symmetry.
- Practice time elapse skills by having your child take note of the time you turn on the washer or dryer. Tell how long the laundry will take and have your child calculate what time it will be ready. When the cycle is done, she/he can figure out if the calculations were correct.



BOOSTING MATH CONFIDENCE

A simple way to boost your child's math confidence is how you talk about math. Here are some simple DOs & DON'Ts:

- DO point out the many everyday ways we use math (e.g., measuring for recipes, paying a bill, calculating tip).
- DO activities together that require using math, such as cooking or shopping.
- DON'T talk about math as easy or hard.
- DON'T say "I don't like math" or "I've always been bad in math." (They may take this to mean that math skills are inheritable)