

## Tips to Help Your Child Achieve in Math

- **Visit your child's school.** Meet with your child's teacher to see if your child is actively involved in math. Find out how you can help your child to better understand math problems.
- **Set high standards for your child in math.** Make sure your child is challenged mathematically and encourage his or her interest in and pursuit of math. By the end of the 10th grade, your child should be expected to have studied algebra and geometry.
- **Help children see that math is very much a part of everyday life.** From statistics in sports to the sale price of clothing, from the calories in food to the amount of gas needed to travel from one city to another, math is important to us every day. Help your child connect everyday activities to math.
- **Point out that many jobs require math.** From the scientist to the doctor, from the plant manager to the newspaper salesman, from the computer programmer to the hardware store owner, many jobs require a strong foundation in math. Help your child see that math leads to many exciting career opportunities.
- **Stimulate your child's interest in technology.** Encourage your child to use calculators and computers to support learning.
- **Play games that help children develop decision-making and mental math skills.** Many educational games are sold commercially, such as board games that involve patterns and probability. Play games from your own family traditions, such as counting games and games that keep score. Try schoolyard games such as jump rope, hopscotch, and jacks. Games require children to use strategies to make decisions and solve problems. Games also help children understand numbers and how to use them (number sense) and master computational skills, such as addition and multiplication.
- **Show a positive attitude about math.** Your feelings will have an impact on how your children think about math and their own ability to do math. Positive attitudes about math are important in encouraging your child to think mathematically.