

More details on how to help your child study their math facts.

When practicing math facts at home, it is important to find a quiet place to work where you and your child will not be disturbed. It is easy to be distracted when trying to solve difficult problems.

If the facts are hard, select 4 or 5 (or fewer) which your child will feel successful with to work on first. Work on these each night until your child has them committed to memory. (If needed start with manipulatives such as pop tabs, pieces of cereal, etc.) When these facts are memorized add in two or three more cards.

Make math fact time a fun time. Make up card games using the facts. (Ask your child how to play Tens Go Fish.) Make up a “memory game” using index cards. Practice time one night could be making the game up. Put the fact on one index card and the answer on the other. The next night you and your child could play the “memory game”.

The students are learning a variety of strategies to help them be successful with their math facts. Here are some:

1. Counting on is a strategy used to help students find the sum when adding 1, 2, or 3 to a greater number. For example: if adding 4 and 3, students are taught to begin with the greater number 4 and count up 3 more to get the correct answer.
2. Doubles Plus One uses the double facts to solve answers. This is another strategy which is helpful when practicing facts at home. If your child knows that $3+3=6$, then point out that $3+4$ is one more. When first using this strategy at home you may need to talk your child through each step. “Three plus three is ____ . So 3 plus 4 is__.”