Numeracy Across Subject Areas

Why is numeracy important across subject areas?

- In school, numeracy, along with literacy, enables students to make meaning of the things they are learning in subjects like mathematics, language arts, science, social studies, fine arts, health and physical education.
- Students who use numeracy and literacy in all subjects develop breadth and depth in their numeracy and literacy skills and gain a deeper understanding of the subjects themselves.
- Practicing numeracy skills in all subject areas enables students to make informed decisions in daily life.

Examples of numeracy activities in each subject area:

SUBJECT	AT SCHOOL	AT HOME
Math	Practice counting and comparing numbers and quantities; recognize and analyze patterns; collect and analyze data; measure length, width, height, distance and describe shapes.	Sing counting songs; play card, dice and other games; follow recipes; read a clock; look for patterns on clothing; place events on a calendar; measure height on a growth chart.
Language Arts	Plot story events on a timeline; visualize and describe settings in stories; look for patterns inside words and in poems.	Find words that rhyme with your name, keep a daily journal of events and experiences; write directions for how to make or build something; create a schedule or calendar to track activities.
Science	Estimate and measure during experiments; use models to represent systems; scientific structures or processes.	Make a chart of the weather for a week; estimate and measure ingredients; make your own science experiments at home.
Social Studies	Make a timeline of historical events; use graphs, tables or charts to interpret information; organize information gathered from a variety of sources.	Look at a map and ask questions; measure distances, and read symbols; interpret data presented in a newspaper (e.g. sports scores, results of a vote, percentages).
Fine Arts	Listen to rhythm patterns and read music notes in music; draw familiar objects from different viewpoints in art; explore body movement in dance and drama.	Listen and move to music with different rhythms, make drawings of items in different sizes, create movement patterns for another family member or friend to copy.
Health and Life Skills and Physical Education	Sort and classify foods according to <i>Canada's Food Guide</i> in health; move your body to create shapes and follow sequences in games, dance and gymnastics in physical education.	Practice safe behaviours, such as learning your telephone number and making a list of emergency numbers; time yourself walking or running a certain distance; play games involving positions and directions.

This resource is protected under copyright with all rights reserved by the Board of Trustees of Edmonton Public Schools ("EPSB"). EPSB permits its teachers and staff, as well as third-parties, to use said resource for the purpose of individual classroom training or advancing general educational interests, without seeking permission. Any and all alteration, modification, distribution, transmission, public performance or display, or other exploitation of said resource in any form or any means in whole or in part, in its original or any other form, is expressly prohibited without the prior written permission of EPSB. © 2020 Board of Trustees of Edmonton Public Schools.

Every effort has been made to trace ownership of all copyrighted material and to secure permission from copyright holders. In the event of any question arising as to the use of any materials, we will be pleased to make necessary corrections in future printings.

EPSB is not responsible for any outcome deriving from your use of or reliance on this resource, whereby all such use or reliance, if any, is at your sole risk. EPSB retains the right to update new editions.

Last updated: March 2020