

Numeracy Tips

Numeracy is everywhere. When we use math skills in everyday situations, we are using numeracy. We use understanding of number, patterns, shape, and data to make informed decisions.

Communication

Why is communication important in numeracy?

- When we share ideas involving mathematical skills we are using, we develop a better understanding of our environment.
- To take part in our communities, we need to communicate our understanding of numbers, patterns, shapes and data. This helps us work with other people and solve problems in daily life.

Find out more:

- Consider *Activities for Every Day* from Math For Families: Helping your child with math at home. Achieve BC: http://www.sd47.bc.ca/Programs/earlylearning/Documents/math_for_families.pdf
- Watch videos to find out more:
 - Alberta Education Numeracy Video <https://education.alberta.ca/literacy-and-numeracy/numeracy/everyone/numeracy-video/>
 - Alberta Education: My Child's Math Video - Communication <https://education.alberta.ca/mathematics-k-6/program-supports/everyone/videos/>
 - Alberta Education: 7 Processes - Communication <https://education.alberta.ca/mathematics-7-9/program-supports/everyone/faq-s/>
- Read about developing mathematical communication <https://education.alberta.ca/media/563586/communication.pdf>

How can I help my child?

Together with your child, try these activities:

- Play games! It can be as simple as I Spy or Which is Bigger or Smaller?
- Go for a numeracy walk. Collect leaves, stones, pinecones, etc. Sort them, count them and make patterns with them. Encourage your child to explain what they notice.
- Look at and talk about books that include numbers, patterns, rhymes, graphs and charts.
- Read a recipe together. Measure the ingredients. Follow directions. For an added challenge, double or half the recipe.
- Record your child's height on a wall or post. As they grow, add the new heights and dates. Talk about the differences in the heights over time.
- Go on a number hunt. Your child can point out and explain the meaning of numbers seen along your walk (e.g. street signs, addresses, license plates, prices).
- Sort and count groups of objects (e.g. buttons, beads, socks, mittens). Show how many in each group and explain why the objects were sorted that way.
- Sing songs that have predictable patterns with words and music.
- Talk about the shapes you see in buildings, at the playground and on signs.
- Talk to your child's teacher about how numeracy is developed and practiced in the classroom.

Use our app EPSB Together

Download [EPSB Together](#), a free app that suggests activities you can do with your child to support your child's learning outside of the classroom. You can download the app on Google Play and the Apple App Store.