



Reasoning

Why is reasoning important in numeracy?

- The ability to reason allows us to think logically and acquire, create, connect and understand information. This helps us solve everyday problems.
- Reasoning is a process that allows us to build upon what we already know, reach conclusions and explain our thinking.
- We become more confident when we can reason and justify our solutions.

Find out more:

- Watch these videos to find out more:
 - [Alberta Education: Numeracy Video](#)
 - [Alberta Education: My Child's Math A Guide for Parents](#)
- Read about helping to develop reasoning: [The 7 Mathematical Processes: Reasoning](#)

How can I help my child?

Together with your child, try these activities:

- Play with puzzles, such as box puzzles or number puzzles or make your own by cutting up a magazine picture and re-assembling it. Explain how you figured out the puzzle.
- Read and talk about Choose Your Own Adventure books. Have your child discuss their choice for the next section of the story.
- Plan a meal or activity together. Encourage your child to justify how much to make and/or how long it will take.
- Encourage your child to create a clapping, singing or dancing pattern. Ask them how they knew which sound or move to make next.
- Watch and record the number of people, pets or cars that pass by. Talk about the results. Compare the numbers. Ask your child to explain their thinking. Try watching and recording at a different time of day. Compare the results.
- Talk with your child about the best present they could choose for a friend based on how much money they can spend. Talk about the reasoning behind their choice.
- Allow your child to plan a different arrangement of furniture in a room. Talk about the reasoning behind their choices.
- Talk to your child's teacher about how reasoning is developed and practiced in the classroom.

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