ELEMENTARY

Numeracy Tips

EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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.

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. https://education.alberta.ca/media/3402195/num-fact-sheet.pdf
- 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. https://education.alberta.ca/media/3402191/lit-and-num-faq.pdf
- Practicing numeracy skills in all subject areas enables students to make informed decisions in daily life.

How can I help my child

Together with your child, try these activities:

- Talk to your child's teacher about how numeracy is developed and practiced in the classroom.
- Explore these resources to find out more:
  - Alberta Education Numeracy Video https://education.alberta.ca/literacy-and-numeracy/numeracy/everyone/numeracy-video/
  - Read: Alberta Education Numeracy Fact Sheet https://education.alberta.ca/media/3402195/num-fact-sheet.pdf
  - Read: Numeracy Progressions https://education.alberta.ca/media/3402196/num-progressions.pdf

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 domino 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. http://www.iflscience.com/chemistry/do-try-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 *Canada's Food Guide to Healthy Eating* 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.