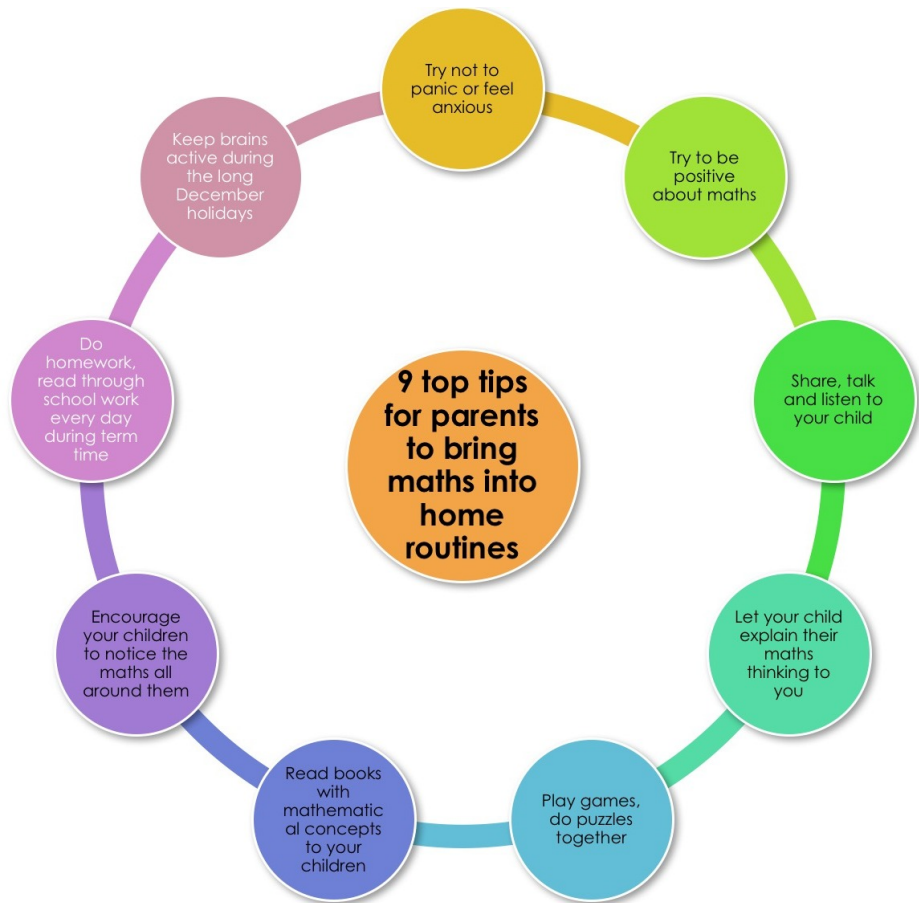


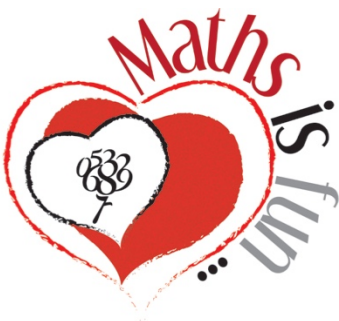


BRINGING MATHS INTO HOME ROUTINES



RESOURCES

To access resources, scan this QR code on your phone to go directly to our **Family Resources** page:



Or visit:

<http://www.ru.ac.za/sanc/resources/families>

DECLARATION

This booklet is not intended to be sold or used for profit making. It is used solely for educational purposes. You may photocopy pages if you wish.

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9 TIPS: HOW YOU CAN HELP YOUR CHILD WITH MATHS AT HOME

Encourage your children to make their brain stronger by exercise and practice every day in the same way they would do for sport.



1. Try not to panic or feel anxious
2. Try to be positive about maths, even if you don't feel confident about it yourself.
3. You **do not need to teach** your child maths, or to even understand it, but you can share, talk and listen to your child.
4. Talk and listen to your child about their work in maths. It will help your child if they **explain to you**. There is more than one way to solve a maths problem. Here's some ideas for questions you can ask:
 - a. What do you see?
 - b. How did you work that out?
 - c. Is there a pattern?
 - d. What would happen if?
 - e. Can you think of another way of doing that?
5. Play **games** (using playing cards, dominos, dice) and do puzzles together - have fun with maths! Get ideas from our Dice and Card booklet.
6. Read **books** with mathematical concepts to your children. Talk about the book with your child, as you would with any other story. The mathematical elements will naturally come into the conversation and should be encouraged – this will help children to see maths as part of everyday life.
7. Encourage your children to notice the **maths all around** them. Practice using maths in everyday situations. Use what you have in the house to provide opportunities to 'TALK MATHS' in a casual and spontaneous way. See page below for ideas as well as our family resource page.
8. Do **homework** during term time and read through school work every day during term time
9. Keep **brains active** during the long December holidays by doing puzzles together, playing games and so on.

SOME USEFUL PROPS FOR MATHS AT HOME

If you have some of these items around the home they can provide opportunities to '**TALK MATHS**' in a casual and spontaneous way.

- ❖ A clock
- ❖ A traditional wall calendar
- ❖ Dice and playing cards
- ❖ Dominoes
- ❖ Measuring jugs, cups and spoons
- ❖ A kitchen scale
- ❖ A tape measure and a ruler
- ❖ A family size bar of chocolate
- ❖ Pizza!



For example:

- ❖ doubling up on a cake or cookie recipe using measuring cups, spoons and weight
- ❖ sharing chocolate equally between family members
- ❖ working out the number of days, weeks, months until a special occasion (birthday, Easter, half term etc.)
- ❖ sharing 2l of cool drink equally between family members
- ❖ going shopping – planning using weekly specials in newspapers
- ❖ comparing differences in heights between siblings
- ❖ Calculating a tip when in a restaurant
- ❖ Classifying and sorting objects into colours, size, purpose, owner and so on



Other examples can be found at:
<https://goo.gl/XXB3jX>

PRAISE EFFORT NOT SMARTNESS

PRAISE:
EFFORT, PLANNING, ATTENTION TO DETAIL, IDEAS, STRATEGIES,
PERSEVERANCE or IMPROVEMENT

For praise to be effective it must be SPECIFIC and PERSONAL. So, for example...

Rather than saying " <i>wow you did well in your test you must be clever</i> "	Say " wow you did well in your test you must have worked hard, well done ". " What have you learnt from the errors you made in your test? "
Instead of " <i>The B is great but if you try harder, I bet you could make an A</i> "	Try " I like the way you tried all kinds of strategies on that math problem until you finally got it. "

As parents, we should not shield our children from the challenges, mistakes, and struggles life can throw at us. Instead, we can teach our children to love challenges.

We can say things like: "This is hard. What fun!" or " All right, that was too easy for you. Let's do something more challenging that you can learn from. "	We can encourage our children to embrace mistakes: "Oooh, here's an interesting mistake. What should we do next?"	And we can teach them to love effort: "That was a fantastic struggle. You really stuck to it and made great progress" or " This will take a lot of effort, will it be fun. "
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