



Find math help on the web

For students in junior and middle grades

Many sites available

There are many sites available on the Internet to help your child with math. In fact, there are so many sites available that it may seem overwhelming. Where do you begin? How can you know which sites are going to give your child the help he needs?

Take stock

Examine your child's past report cards. Identify the strand(s) of math in which she is experiencing difficulty. Choose to concentrate on only one strand at a time. Write the name of that strand here _____.

The good news

The Peel board has identified useful web sites for you to surf to support your child in the strand in which he is experiencing difficulty.

Start your engine

Access Peel's online math resource:
www.Peelmathresource.net/index1.html

In particular, go to "Link To Learning" and choose the "Mathematics" option. Then click on the strand that you identified above. Choose from the many available links. When there are prompts for grade levels, choose one or two grade levels below your child's present grade.

General math difficulty

Your child may be experiencing difficulty in many strands of math. There are four knowledge and skill areas that are involved in all strands of

math: problem solving, concepts, procedures, and communication. If your child is struggling with one of these areas, he may also be having trouble with other strands.

Identify the problem

Talk to your child's teacher to identify the knowledge or skill area(s) that is affecting your child's math achievement.

Problem solving

Visit www.nzmath.co.nz for extra problem solving help for your child. This site also provides links to other problem solving sites.

Concepts

Check out web sites that use visual manipulatives (pattern blocks, geoboards, algebra tiles, etc.). In "Link To Learning", choose "Virtual Manipulatives". These manipulatives are interactive and tell you how to use them.

Procedures

Try sites like www.aplusmath.com, which can be found as a link from Peel's online math resource. These sites allow you or your child to create flashcards and worksheets. Games are also available to enhance skill development.

Communication

To support your child with their math communication, look for sites that contain Mathematical Dictionaries. Also, look for sites that contain writing activities.

Homework help

Sites are available to assist your child with his homework. There are sites where he can ask questions (e.g. Dr. Math) and sites that have tutorials in specific strands (e.g. Purple Math: Your Algebra Resource). Many of these sites

Empower your child by letting her ask a teacher themselves! TV Ontario's Eureka! Ask a Teacher can be found at eureka.tv.o.org. And...remember that your child's homework belongs to her.

Consider the following

When students experience difficulty in math, it can be a result of many things, including:

- difficulty reading instructions and word problems
- more time may be needed for your child to learn concepts and process information
- motivational and behavioural factors

The Internet is not a cure-all for math difficulties, but is a tremendous tool for supporting your child in math and encouraging math confidence.

include real time interactive help. You can also visit www.school.discovery.com for more homework help.

This tip sheet was prepared by Rosalind Grant, Teacher.

