

# Maths at home

Supporting  
your child's  
learning at  
**Year 4**

## Talk together and have fun with numbers, shapes, games, and patterns

### Help your child to:

- find and read large numbers in your environment, for example, nine thousand, three hundred and twenty three
- count forwards and backwards starting with numbers like 1098, 1099, 1100, 1101 then back again
- estimate the cost of several items at the store, such as 3 items at \$3, \$4.50, and \$0.30 will cost a little less than \$8
- find families of facts when multiplying and dividing with 3 and 4, for example, if your child knows  $3 \times 4 = 12$ , then they will also know that  $4 \times 3 = 12$ ,  $12 \div 4 = 3$  and  $12 \div 3 = 4$
- estimate the size of objects using tools they have available, like the width of their hand or the length of their foot
- learn their 4, 6, and 9 times tables
- notice the right angles and lines around them.



**Here's a tip:** be positive about maths and show your child where you use maths. This will help them build confidence in maths. Praise their effort.

## Use easy, everyday activities

### Involve your child in:

- making and organising lunch or a meal for a party or a hui, including equal sharing of fruit/biscuits/sandwiches/drinks
- helping at the supermarket – choose items to weigh – how many apples/bananas weigh a kilo? Look for the best buy between different makes of the same items (eg. blocks of cheese) – check on the amount of sugar or salt per serving
- telling the time to the nearest 5 minutes
- deciding how much money to pay the parking meter and what time you will need to be back before the meter expires
- thinking about how many phone numbers they can remember – talk about what they do to help them remember the series of numbers
- reading together – help them look for numbers, shapes, measurements, graphs and other maths ideas
- using a map or app to plan a route to a new location
- looking at a weather forecast and talking about the chance of rain, sun etc.
- deciding how much wrapping is needed to cover a present or package.



**Here's a tip:** maths is an important part of everyday life. Make maths fun for your child with practical, hands-on activities and games that you can do together.

## For wet afternoons/school holidays/weekends

### Get together with your child and:

- play card and board games that use guessing and checking
- look at junk mail or online shops – what items are the best value? Ask your child what they would buy if they had \$10/\$100/\$1,000 to spend
- do complicated jigsaw puzzles
- cook or bake – get them to select the appropriate measuring cups, spoons ( $\frac{1}{2}$  and  $\frac{1}{4}$  teaspoon) and scales to use
- collect boxes – undo and see if you can make them up again or make it into something else
- make paper darts and change the weight so that they fly differently, work out which is the best design
- create a repeating pattern (eg. kōwhaiwhai patterns) to fill up a page or decorate a card
- play maths “I Spy” – something that is  $\frac{1}{2}$  a km away, something that has 5 parts
- hide something from each other and draw a map or hide several clues – can you follow the map or the clues and find it?
- do skipping ropes/elastics – how long will it take to jump 20 times?
- look at paper or online maps to find important locations, for example, where were you born, where does Nana live?



**Here's a tip:** the way your child is learning to solve maths problems may be different to when you were at school. Get them to show you how they do it and support them in their learning.

