

Maths at home

Supporting
your child's
learning at
Year 6

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

Help your child to:

- multiply two and three-digit numbers, like 29×36
- use rounding and estimating to check the answer to their calculations
- find percentages in shops or online sales – talk about how much they would have to pay if an item is 50% off or half price
- talk about the phases of the moon and link these to the best times for fishing/planting
- talk about the patterns in the night sky – summer and winter. What changes and why?
- talk about where the data in a graph might have come from
- tell the time using both 12 and 24-hour time systems.



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:

- helping at the supermarket – look for the best buy between different brands of the same item and different sizes of the same item (eg. toilet paper, cans of spaghetti, bottles of milk)
- working out how many servings we could get from a bottle of juice, packet of pasta etc
- looking at the nutrition table on food labels – how much fat, sugar, salt – and deciding on the healthiest choice
- reading other tables, such as TV schedules, events or activities schedules
- practising times tables – check with your child or their teacher which tables you could help them with
- on a journey – estimating how far away, and how long it might take to get to your destination.



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
- play games with dice and talk about how likely it is to roll a certain number
- cook – make a pizza by working out who likes what toppings, making and cooking it, and making sure the pizza is shared fairly – make a paper or cardboard container to hold a piece of pizza to take for lunch
- mix a drink for the family – measuring cordial, fruit and water
- make kites or manu aute using a variety of shapes and materials. How high can it go, how long can it fly for?
- make a family/whānau tree or whakapapa – number of cousins, aunts and uncles, grandparents and their relationships to you
- plan out the holidays. Look at each day's fun time, kai time, TV time, helping time, family time and bedtime
- plan to make bead necklaces and friendship bracelets – calculate the cost of the materials, the length of stringing material
- play outdoor games – frisbee, touch rugby, kilikiti, cricket, soccer, bowls
- do complicated jigsaw puzzles
- explain to a family or whānau member how to do paper folding (origami)
- go on scavenger hunts – make a map with clues and see who can get there first.



Here's a tip: maths is an important part of everyday life and there are lots of ways you can make it fun for your child. 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.

