

MATH *at* HOME



HELPING
YOUR CHILDREN
LEARN AND ENJOY
MATHEMATICS

A MESSAGE TO PARENTS

It's common knowledge that young children whose parents read to them have a tremendous advantage in school. But did you know that you can also help your children learn mathematics by doing and supporting math at home?

Today, mathematics is more critical to school success than ever before. The mathematics students need to learn and the state tests they are required to take are very demanding. The high standards our state has set for mathematics education reflect the importance of math in both college and careers. Modern occupations now require a firm foundation in mathematics—and that's true for almost any type of job your children will consider in the future.

How you encourage and promote your children's math learning, from preschool to high school, can be pivotal to their attitude toward mathematics and their achievement in this subject area. Even if you haven't studied mathematics in depth yourself, you *can* assist your children. Something as simple as expecting your children to be capable in math can make a difference in their mathematics learning.

This booklet is designed to give you ideas and resources to support your role in your child's math education. The information you'll find in the pages that follow comes from a variety of sources and represents today's best thinking about how to help children learn mathematics. The goal in publishing the booklet is two-fold: to encourage stronger, more informed parent support for math education and to increase the mathematics achievement of our region's students.

The Sonoma County Office of Education and North Bay Mathematics Project bring this booklet to you in the hope that you and your family will find it to be a valuable, informative, and useful resource.