Fourth Grade

In 4th grade, your child will gain important new skills while continuing to build on what he or she learned the previous year. For example multiplication will expand to multi-digit multiplication, and solving problems by dividing multi-digit numbers. These skills will extend to using fractions within problems as well. This is an important life skill, and your child should make significant strides in this area during the year. Your child will also build knowledge and skills with two-dimensional shapes including *symmetry,* analyze, compare, and classify. These skills will help ensure your child is ready for algebra and advanced math.

Skills Your Child Will Be Working On

- Using whole-number arithmetic to solve word problems, including problems with remainders and problems with measurements
- Adding and subtracting whole numbers quickly and accurately (numbers up to 1 million)
- Multiplying and dividing multi-digit numbers in simple cases (e.g., multiplying 1,638 × 7 or 24 × 17, and dividing 6,966 by 6)
- Understanding and applying equivalent fractions (e.g., recognizing that 1⁄4 is less than 3⁄8 because 2⁄8 is less than 3⁄8)

- Adding, subtracting, and multiplying fractions in simple cases (such as 2 3⁄4 − 1 1⁄4 or 3 × 5⁄8), and solving related word problems
- Understanding simple decimals in terms of fractions (e.g., rewriting 0.62 as 62⁄100)
- Measuring angles and finding unknown angles in a diagram

Learning Activity to Use at Home

What is a prime number? Check out this great way to learn. Find a deck of cards and deal them out. We hope your hand has a lot of prime numbers in it! If it does, you have a good chance of winning. If not, we wish you luck when you reach your hand over to the draw pile. Before you know it, you'll have the first set of prime numbers memorized and some great skills to take with you back to math class.

Activity: Prime Time - A Prime Numbers Math Game

Terms to Know:
- *Prime Number*: a number with no factors excepting itself and 1 (The first several prime numbers are 2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13, 17, 19, and 23. The number 1 is not a prime number and is instead classified as a unit.)
- *Factor:* a number that divides evenly into another number

What You Need:
- Deck of playing cards

What You Do:
1. Shuffle the deck and deal five cards to each player.
2. In this game, Aces = 1, Jacks = 11, Queens = 12, and Kings = 13.
3. Players take turns discarding cards, face up and one at a time, into a discard pile. Players may only discard prime numbers or a group of cards whose sum is a prime number. If a player is unable to discard a prime number, they must draw from the deck until they find or create one.
4. Play continues until the pack is depleted. The winning player is the player with the fewest cards left in their hand.

Teacher and Parent Conferencing - Topics for ongoing conversations throughout the school year with your child's teacher.

When you talk to the teacher, do not worry about covering everything. Instead, keep the conversation focused on the most important topics. In fourth grade, these include:

- Is your child able to multiply and divid using multi-digit numbers?
- Is your child able to convert fractions into decimals?
- Does your child solve problems involving conversion of measurements from a larger unit to a smaller unit?

Ask to see a sample of your child's work. Ask the teacher questions such as: Is this piece of work satisfactory? How could it be better? Is my child on track? How can I help my child improve or excel in this area? If my child needs extra support or wants to learn more about a subject, are there resources to help his or her learning outside the classroom?