Additional Excerpt You May Include in a Beginning of the Year Classroom or Schoolwide Letter



How Can You Help Your Child?

- Play games at home with your child! Problem-solving skills are built from experience strategizing and using critical thinking skills. The more you play at home, the more you support our work at school. [List particular math games, board games, and resources your students' families would find helpful.]
- Help your child establish a routine at home and a quiet work space.
- Focus on fluency and basic facts rather than teaching new content.
- Allow your child to make mistakes.
- Model positive language and mindset about math.



How Can You Understand the Way We Teach Math Today?

- Look out for papers that will be in your child's backpack or sent via email, text, or app.
- Check out our district/school math resource page.
- Reach out to your child's teacher to ask for rationales or for help on a process.
- Join a network of parents, perhaps through a local social media group, who share the same yearning for understanding as you do.
- Read about the ways math is taught today and practice the methods. Ask your child to teach you!

(Continued)

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How Can You Be Confident You're Doing the Right Thing?

- A great start would be to ask your child questions. Having them explain will often help both them and you understand the concept.
- Be curious about the methods, strategies, and approaches the teacher or curriculum is using, rather than simply showing your child the way you learned it.
- When in doubt, ask your child's teacher if what you are doing is supporting your child's learning or interfering with it.



How Can You Be Familiar With the Language?

- Ask your child to define a word that you are unsure about.
- Use a search engine to check for the definition of a word.
- Email or connect with your child's teacher to understand the word or language being used.

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