

How do I help my child...

... be a productive mathematical thinker?

Remind your child that working hard to understand a tough problem helps build their learning muscles! Ask questions to learn what your child understands and help them find a way to get started on a task. Encourage them to use mathematical language and pay attention to details.

How do I help my child...

... reason and explain in mathematics?

Encourage your child to explain their thinking about a problem and tell you *why* they did something, not just *what* they did. Expect them to refer to objects or drawings as well as talk about numbers and equations as they share their thinking.

How do I help my child...

... model and use tools in mathematics?

Encourage your child to represent a problem in more than one way, including building a model, drawing a sketch, or writing an equation. Ask your child what tools or models they have used that might be helpful.

How do I help my child...

... see structure and generalize in mathematics?

Make a habit of asking your child if they notice any patterns, both in their mathematics work and in the world around them. Encourage them to think about how a specific problem is like others they have solved and how seeing those relationships can be helpful..

... reason and explain in mathematics?

Ask

How did you figure that out?

What were you thinking when you placed your game marker there?

Can you find a way to prove that?

Can you convince me?

How could you make this easier for someone else to understand your thinking?

... be a productive mathematical thinker?

Ask

What do you think that problem is asking?

What's the word for _____? (e.g., a shape with three sides)

Does your answer seem reasonable?

What might you do to get started?

... see structure and generalize in mathematics?

Ask

What other problems does this remind you of?

What do you predict will happen next? Why?

What do you notice?

Do you see any patterns?

Does that always work? Why or why not?

... model and use tools in mathematics?

Ask

Can you draw a picture to show your thinking?

What can you use besides words to show how you solved the problem?

What equation might represent this problem?

What labels can you add to your picture?

What tools might you use to help you solve this problem?