

Mathematics For Families

You Are Your Child's First Teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Washington's academic standards and why they are important to your child. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!

4

Fourth Grade

In fourth grade, students deepen their understanding of numbers and strengthen foundational math skills. Fourth-graders focus on using different strategies and choosing methods that work best for them so they can solve problems accurately and efficiently. They apply their skills to word problems, helping them see how math supports real-world problem solving beyond the classroom.

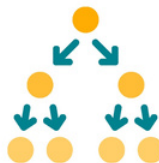


Below is a snapshot of what your student will learn in math this year and how you can support them in school and at home.

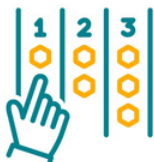
What Fourth-Graders Learn and Do



Solve multistep word problems involving measurements such as length, weight, and time.



Understand factors and multiples.



Extend their understanding of place value to 1,000,000.



Multiply two two-digit numbers.



Multiply a one-digit number by a four-digit number.



Washington Office of Superintendent of
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

How to Support Your Fourth-Grader with Math

Do Math at Home

- Compare measurements around the house. Estimate and then measure the length of furniture, the height of plants, or the width of rooms.
- Sort and group household items (coins, utensils, toys, markers) to discuss factors, multiples, or ways to categorize and represent information.
- Look for symmetry and geometry in real life: in buildings, art, nature, or everyday objects.
- Create math stories or word problems together about your student's day, pets, hobbies, or family routines. Talk about how to solve the problems in multiple ways.
- Ask your student to solve quick math challenges in their head, like finding all the numbers that multiply to a given number.

Talk with Your Student

- Celebrate flexible thinking: Point out moments when your student changes strategies or uses a new approach to solve a problem.
- Let your student explain or teach you a math idea they learned in class. Encourage your student to share ideas, questions, and strategies they use in math.
- Model curiosity instead of correctness by wondering about things out loud around your student.
- Offer choices during math activities, such as which problem to start with or what tools to use (drawing, objects, paper).
- Support perseverance by praising effort on homework and sticking with a difficult problem.
- Invite your student to create math problems based on their hobbies, routines, or favorite things.

Partner with the School

- Ask your student's teacher what students are learning in math. Share how it connects to your student's home life, community, culture, and future goals.
- Ask the teacher what students should know and be able to do by the end of fourth grade. Ask what your student needs to practice or what they can work on next.
- Help your student identify their strengths in math and areas where they feel confident. Share this information with the teacher.
- Ask the teacher how they encourage students to explain their thinking, make choices, and learn from mistakes in math class.
- Discuss collaboration with the teacher. Ask how students work with others to support learning.
- If you have questions, or if your student needs extra help or is new to learning English, talk to your student's teacher, multilingual learner specialist, or individualized education program (IEP) team (if applicable).

