

Summer
Quarterly
2026



The EL News Quarterly

A Message from Mrs. Gina Koski, Kindergarten Teacher:

"Math is everywhere, and we use it every day! From playing outside and counting rocks to making patterns with snacks, math helps young minds grow into critical thinkers. When children sort, count, compare, measure, and build through math play, they are learning how to become independent problem-solvers."



Summer is Here!

As this school year comes to an end, we want to say how proud we are of our ESL students.

Your children worked very hard this year. They learned new English words, improved reading and writing, and practiced math skills every day. They also play an important role in our schools and classrooms. Their ideas, cultures, languages, and hard work make our school community stronger and more special. We are happy to see their growth and success!

Summer is a great time to keep learning at home in fun and easy ways. This newsletter will give families ideas and activities to help children continue practicing English and math during the summer. Thank you for supporting your child's learning this year.

We hope your family has a safe, happy, and relaxing summer!

Family Summer Tip:

Talking together every day helps children learn language and build confidence. Try asking your child simple questions during daily activities like cooking, shopping, riding in the car, or walking outside. Encourage your child to describe objects, tell stories, or talk about their ideas and feelings. Reading books together, singing songs, and playing simple games like "I Spy" are also great ways to practice language.

Every conversation helps children grow stronger speaking and listening skills in both English and their home language!

"Every child can learn to love math, especially EL learners. Bridging the gap between two languages was the key to success this year for one of my students. We incorporated his numbers and vocabulary into our math lessons so his classmates could learn his language as well. It was amazing to watch all of the students learn while building confidence and success with math vocabulary."

-Mrs. Gina Koski

Summer Math Literacy Resources

Math learning does not always have to come from textbooks or homework sheets. In fact, some of the **BEST** math lessons happen during everyday family activities. When children see how numbers work in real life, math starts to feel more meaningful and less intimidating. Simple daily tasks can help children practice counting, measuring, estimating, and problem solving without even realizing they are learning. Here are ten everyday activities that secretly teach kids math while making learning fun:

1. Cooking and Baking

The kitchen is one of the best places for kids to practice math skills. Measuring ingredients introduces fractions and units. Doubling or halving a recipe helps children understand multiplication and division. If a recipe needs one cup of milk but you want to make twice as much, ask your child how much milk you should use. These small questions turn cooking into a hands on math lesson.

2. Grocery Shopping

A trip to the grocery store offers plenty of chances to practice numbers. Ask your child to estimate the total cost of a few items before reaching the checkout. You can also compare prices between different brands and discuss which option is the better value. This activity helps children understand addition, estimation, and basic budgeting.

3. Gardening

Gardening introduces kids to measurement and planning. Children can measure the distance between plants, count seeds, or estimate how much water plants need. They also learn about patterns and growth over time. For example, tracking how tall a plant grows each week can turn into a simple data activity.

4. Setting the Table

Even a simple task like setting the table can involve math thinking. Ask your child how many plates, forks, and glasses are needed if four people are eating dinner. If guests are coming over, children can calculate how many additional items will be needed. This activity reinforces counting and multiplication.

5. Traveling in the Car

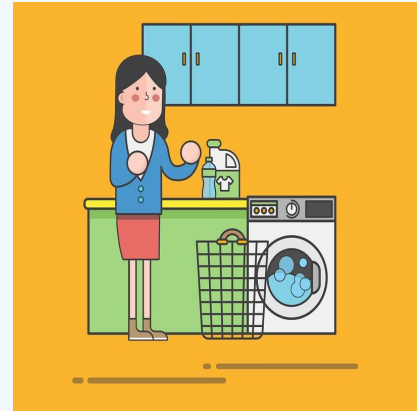
Car rides provide great opportunities for quick math challenges. You can ask your child to estimate how many minutes remain before arriving at your destination or how far you will travel in a certain amount of time. You can also create simple number games, such as adding digits from license

6. Waiting Around

While you're waiting around, make it a math game, no matter where you are. If you're stuck in traffic or waiting for a store to open, count the red cars together or see if there are more blue or red cars in the parking lot. If you're waiting in line at the grocery store, count the items in your basket, count the colors or sides on a cereal box, and find the biggest and smallest items in your cart.

7. Sorting Laundry

While you're sorting laundry, ask your child to help you sort the clothes into piles of more or less, into different colors, by whose laundry it is, or by item characteristics (i.e., anything with two arm holes or two legs). Have your child help you put a specific quantity of clothing into the laundry hamper and then count with them as they do it.



8. Cleaning Up

While you're cleaning up a room, ask your children to pick up a set number of objects and count with them as they do it. This not only helps motivate them toward an end goal but also reinforces one-to-one counting. Besides counting a set number of objects, you can also count the number of steps you each took to pick up each of the objects or to complete the cleanup task.

9. Eating Together

When you and your child eat meals together, bring math into the conversations about parity (*same*) and magnitude (*more or less*). Vary the proportions on your plates so your child can make judgments just by looking. Ask questions like "Do we have the same number of baby potatoes on our plate?," "Are there more blueberries on your plate or in the bowl?," and "I just ate one spoonful of squash. Are you going to have one too?"



10. Reading Stories

While you're reading a story with your child, look for ways to talk about math concepts. Find stories that include counting, shapes, and other mathematical concepts. Make math talk a part of any story—for example, if you're reading a book about a boy searching for his missing pet frog through a forest, count the number of animals he meets along the way.



West Virginia Department of Education's Mission for the Education of English Learners

Title III promotes student achievement by increasing the local capacity to support English Learners in attaining English proficiency and meaningfully access challenging curricular and extracurricular programs. We do this by providing leadership, resources, and services to educators, families and community partners.

West Virginia Department of Education's Vision for the Education of English Learners

The Department is committed to using English Language Proficiency (ELP) Standards because they explicitly focus on the learning needs of the wide range of English Learner (EL) students from pre-kindergarten through twelfth grade who come from widely diverse cultural, linguistic, and educational backgrounds and are at different stages of English language acquisition. Unlike other content standards, they take into account the critical role of language learning in the achievement of content and specifically focus on the learning styles and instructional needs of EL students. ELP standards represent a bridge for EL students to gain access to content instruction in English. .

The Marion County School District is committed to providing an effective Language Instruction Educational Program (LIEP) that promotes the natural abilities of bilingual children to acquire language. It is characterized by creative teaching strategies and teacher support so that ELs can meet academic content and achievement standards as other students. Second language instruction incorporates the skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. All modalities of cognitive and learning styles are included to make instruction relevant and comprehensible. Language instruction strives to accommodate individual proficiencies by presenting learning activities at the appropriate level of difficulty. EL instruction varies in scope and incorporates content areas in lessons when appropriate.

Summer Reading 2026: Unearth A Story

Join the Marion County Public Library for their Summer reading program.

Get ready to dig into a summer full of stories, surprises, and adventures with this Summer Reading Program! This year's theme, *Unearth a Story*, invites readers of all ages to uncover hidden tales, explore new worlds, and discover the magic waiting in every book.

Make sure to sign up on the app, [READsquared](https://mcpls.readsquared.com/) (<https://mcpls.readsquared.com/>) to get ready to start logging your books soon!



Kick things off with on Saturday, June 6 at your local library branch! Programs officially begin the week of June 8, so make sure you're ready to start logging your reading. The library has a new program that encourages families to read 1,000 books with their children before they enter kindergarten.