Elementary Program

Math Moments

March 2018

The Seven Math Processes

The curriculum identifies seven key processes students engage in as they learn and use math throughout the grade. These are problem solving, reasoning and proving, reflecting, selecting tools and computational strategies, connecting, representing, and communicating. Your child will use these processes when learning new concepts and procedures, practising skills, and solving problems. Your child will also draw on his/her knowledge and skills from the five strands and make connections with real-life situations. In this month's newsletter, we will look at three of the processes.



Problem Solving - Students enjoy and use math when the concepts they learn make sense to them. Investigating problems builds students' understanding of concepts. It also allows students to apply their math skills in everyday situations.

In your child's math classroom, students:

- **tackle math problems that are appropriately challenging**
- **explore many different approaches to solving problems**

Reasoning and Proving - Students need to be able to explain the reasoning behind a solution or choice of strategy. They need to be able to answer the question, "How do you know?"

In your child's math classroom, students:

- **make predictions**
- **test hypotheses**
- **explain their thinking**



Reflecting - Reflecting is an essential part of good problem solving. Reflecting on their choices and results enables students to improve their approaches and discover new possibilities.

In your child's math classroom, students:

- **reflect on their own thinking and the thinking of others**
- **assess the reasonableness of an answer**
- **brainstorm other possible strategies**
- **share aspects of a problem that were challenging**

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