



Utah Parent Center
Special needs, extraordinary potential

Math Resources

Utah Parent Center

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Let's Talk Math: Using Information Provided by your Child's School

As parents, we often receive information from our child's school about his or her performance in different subjects. One of the most intimidating for parents can be information provided about the subject of math. Understanding that math is a necessary skill that will be useful to our children's future is a step in the right direction for finding and providing any needed resources and supports to our children. It's a common belief among parents, that most people are not "good" at math. That myth, along with others, can get in the way of our support.

Twelve Math Myths: <http://bit.ly/12mathmyths>

Assessments and Evaluations

In addition to typical assignments and tests at school, all schools in our state run assessments and tools for evaluating how our students are achieving in different subject areas. Reports are typically generated and shared with families. In turn, families can learn their children's level of proficiency. Here are some tests that are typically performed for students depending on grade level:

Kindergarten Entry and Exit Profile (KEEP): <http://bit.ly/UtahKEEP>

Designed to inform parents and teachers on academic and social-emotional development of entering and exiting kindergarten students. The math portion includes reading and writing numbers, counting objects, etc.

Readiness Improvement Success Empowerment (RISE):
<https://utportal.questarai.com/>

Designed for grades 3-9. Math is evaluated in each grade.

Utah Aspire Plus: <http://utah.pearsonaccessnext.com>

Designed for grades 9-10. This evaluates knowledge and skills that students should have by the end of grades 9 and 10 in math, among other subjects.

American College Testing (ACT): <http://www.act.org>

Designed for students in 11th grade and beyond. The ACT is a standardized test with multiple sections, including math, used in preparation for college admissions. It can be retaken as students continue to learn and practice to achieve higher scores.

More math resources are available at:

<https://utahparentcenter.org/resources/math-resources/>

Ideas for Using Test Information

- Ask questions of your child's teacher about what strategies he or she has observed working for your child in with different math concepts.
- For students on either a Section 504 plan or receiving special education services, discuss your child's accommodations as a team to make sure that those applicable to math, depending on need, such as manipulatives, charts or calculations devices are reflected on the plan.
- For students receiving special education services, consider incorporating specific goals with your team on your child's Individualized Education Program (IEP).
- Follow up with your teacher during Parent-Teacher conference about your child's progress in identified areas of need.
- Target specific areas of need described on the assessment to review concepts with your child.

For tools on helping students that are struggling, see the following:

- **Math Resources**
<https://utahparentcenter.org/resources/math-resources/>
- **Helping the Struggling Student with Math**
<http://bit.ly/helpingmath>