

## Mathematics and Reading

Reading stories can enhance your child's interest in and understanding of mathematics. Stories provide natural contexts for exploring ideas about number, space and shape. When children read and discuss math stories, they hone their mathematical reasoning and communication skills. When you read a mathematics story with your child, keep in mind the same strategies you use to read any story. Find a story that is interesting. Read with expression. Provide background information, as necessary. The best books have a mathematical or reasoning problem that needs to be addressed. They may require brainstorming and making predictions. Even books that are not specifically mathematical in context can be used to generate more mathematical ideas, make comparisons, and involve estimations.

For a plethora of excellent examples of math books for reading, visit the following two sites.

<http://www.dearteacher.com/math-books>

<http://www.whatdowedoallday.com/2015/02/math-picture-books.html>

## Mathematics and Online Sites

There are a number of mathematics activities available online. They are usually designed to appeal to a child's natural interest in animals, sports, toys, etc. As a parent, though, it is important to realize that the computer can become an isolating and static learning environment. Join your child on these sites. Make it an interactive experience. A parent's guidance and mutual interest will go a long way to making the activity on the computer a rich and rewarding learning experience.

For a great selection of examples of educational website, please use the follow link: <http://bit.ly/2zvKzsH>



## Supporting Your Teen with Planning and Transitions

It is important to have ongoing conversations with your teen about your teen's strengths, interests, and future goals. Prior to entering grade 9, choices will need to be made about which mathematics courses best match your teen's needs and goals. It is helpful for your teen to make a plan and adjust it as interests and goals change. Encourage your teen to discuss the plan with a mathematics teacher and guidance counselor so they can help your teen select the appropriate mathematics courses throughout secondary school.

For a comprehensive online tool kit for exploring choices for high school math courses, please visit the follow link: <http://www.mathpathontario.ca/home.php>.