



Dear Parents:

April is Mathematics and Statistics Awareness month. The theme for 2024 is Game On! Play Math! I have developed a calendar of activities similar to March is Reading Month that your child can participate in. I'm going to keep this very simple. I hope to provide some fun ideas for kids and parents to do together. After Spring Break, each of the remaining Fridays in April, I will attach a newsletter explaining the upcoming week's events.

We will also be participating in a Service Project. Last year we supported Danielle Cares for Chairs. We will again collect plastic bread tags (also found on fruit bags - the square little tags, not twist ties).

The organization recycles them and uses the money to purchase wheelchairs for kids. It takes 260,000 bread tags to purchase a wheelchair. Our goal is to collect 2,000 per elementary and help support this endeavor. It will help the environment too. Visit Danielle's [website](#) for more information. There will be collection containers in each classroom and the main office where students can turn in their tags. The tags will be picked up from each classroom every Friday. We will count these to see how close we are in achieving our goal. Last year we collected over 29,000 with our original goal of 8,000. This seems to be an endeavor many continue to save, so we'll make our district goal 20,000 this year. Not sure if the bread companies have continued to save for us. We'll see.



Each week in April we will celebrate a component in Math. The first week, April 8 -12, we will focus on Number Sense and Operations. During this week, be explorers of numbers. Look for numbers while you're driving. Check out highway billboards, mile markers, and look at how the numbers get bigger or smaller. How much distance is there between exits? Go for a walk in a neighborhood, look at the house numbers, discuss odd and even sides of the street. Count your steps when you walk. Play a math game with your child. Here are a few examples: dominoes, Farkle, Rack-O, Yahtzee, Go Fish, Uno, or a card game of War. There are a lot of other math games on the market to play as well: The Game, Quixx, Zap, Splat, Zoom, Go Low, Tenzi, and Adsumudi. These are all fun games to play as a family. Read a book with a number in the title. Here is another resource from [Scholastic](#) with even more ideas.

Other activities: Count by 1's, 10's, 100's, and/or start at a number other than 1. Count by 10's starting at 4 and go past 104, so students know how to transition beyond 100. Use Uno cards to make 2, 3, and 4 digit numbers (depending on their age). Have your child identify the number they create: Is it the highest number or the lowest number he/she can make? Use a deck of cards to quiz your child on making combinations of 10 or their doubles facts. Play Memory with cards, Ace-10, finding doubles. What is their sum? Kindergarten, use Ace- 5.

I hope you and your child will find enjoyment exploring math this month. Get creative - talk about math.

Math Counts - Carmen Tawney - LAS Elementary Math Coordinator