



A Parent's Guide to the Standards for Mathematical Practice

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The Standards for Mathematical Practice define **what** students should understand and be able to do. As your child works through homework activities, you can help him or her develop skills with these Math Practice Standards by asking some of these types of questions.

1. Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.

- What are you solving for in this problem?
- Can you think of a problem that you have solved before that is like this one?
- How will you go about solving it? What is your plan?
- Are you making progress toward solving it? Should you try a different plan?
- How can you check your answer? Can you check using a different method?

2. Reason abstractly and quantitatively.

- Can you write or recall an expression or equation to match the situation in the problem?
- What do the numbers in the equation refer to?
- What's the connection among the numbers in the equation?

3. Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.

- Tell me what your answer means.
- How do you know your answer is correct?
- If I told you the answer would be (*offer an incorrect answer*), how would you explain to me that I am wrong?

4. Model with mathematics.

- Do you know a formula or relationship that fits this problem situation?
- What's the connection among the numbers in the problem?
- Is your answer reasonable? How do you know?
- What does the number in your solution refer to?

5. Use appropriate tools strategically.

- What tools could you use to solve this problem? How can each one help you?
- Which tool is more useful for this problem? Explain your choice.
- Before you solve the problem, can you estimate your answer?

6. Attend to precision.

- What do the symbols you used mean?
- What unit of measure are you using? (for measurement problems)
- Explain to me (a term from the lesson).

7. Look for and make use of structure.

- What do you notice about the answers to the exercises you've just completed?
- What do the different parts of the expression or equation you are using tell you about possible correct answers?

8. Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning.

- What shortcut can you think of that will always work for these kinds of problems?
- What pattern(s) do you see? Can you make a rule or generalization?