

Parents and Guardians,

Children are constantly moving, doing, and taking in the world around them. You can take advantage of these everyday activities to create learning moments. These moments can inspire your child to design and invent or can reinforce real life uses for concepts learned in school.

Examples:

**In the car:**

Have your child look for different state license plates. This will help her learn to recognize state names, mottos, and more. If interested, she could keep track of which license plates she has seen and look up more information about those states. Younger children can point out numbers or letters on the license plates or on signs along the roadway.

Sing age appropriate songs with your child. Singing helps develop word and sound recognition in addition to tuning musical skills.

**At home:**

During a meal, have your child think of ways to improve everyday tasks or objects. How could he improve the packaging of his favorite cereal? What about the milk? These kind of open-ended questions inspire imagination and creativity.

Household tasks such as laundry can provide opportunities for your child to learn about sorting or other math skills. Your child can sort clothes by color or material. Once washed, he can pair matching socks together. Rolling pennies or sorting other coins can also reinforce the math skills of counting and determining value.

**While walking:**

Whether on a stroll through the neighborhood or on your way to the store or park, take some time to look around while you are walking. Talk with your child about the street signs, directions, and where things are located in relation to your house. This is also a good time to reinforce safety rules such as how to cross the street properly.

Make the most of everyday activities. Parent and child together time can be a valuable asset both academically and emotionally as your child learns and grows.

