



POWERFUL PARTNERS

February



Parents and Guardians,

You are powerful partners in education and learning does not have to end in the classroom. How can you help at home? Here are some engaging activities that will support learning at home and help your child become more successful in their studies.

READING

Improve Reading Comprehension

Here are 5 reading comprehension strategies parents can use to help their students read.

Reading comprehension relies on several strategies that can help your child understand their reading materials.

- **Activate background knowledge** – Children understand reading materials better when they have a frame of prior knowledge to work with. Just asking your child “what do you know about...” can help them think about the topic before they begin reading.
- **Questioning** – Before reading, also get your child to ask questions about the reading. Your child should have three questions in mind as they read: right now questions, analytical questions, and research questions. A “right now” question is figuring out what facts and information are being presented in the text. An “analytical” question is when your child needs to figure out “what is the author trying to tell me?”. A “research” question basically encourages your child to do their own research outside of the text.
- **Analyze text structure**– In order to analyze text structure, your child needs to be able to identify the various ways text is presented such as cause and effect, chronologically, or listing. They should also be able to find the different parts of a text and know what they are used for such as headings and subheadings.
- **Visualization** – Many teachers and researchers stress that reading comprehension also includes being able to visualize the text in some way. This might be by using graphic organizers such as mind maps or even just asking your child to draw what they think the story is about.
- **Summarizing** – Summarizing is a great tool to use to make sure your child is able to identify the main ideas of a text. If they are able to find the main ideas presented in a text, they are most likely also already using the other four reading comprehension strategies.

MATH

Game Time

Product Plus!

Ready

You will need:
3 number cubes
Paper and pencil



$$\begin{array}{r} 21 \\ \times 7 \\ \hline 147 \\ \hline 63 \\ \times 4 \\ \hline 252 \\ \hline 147 \\ + 252 \\ \hline 399 \end{array}$$

Set

Clear some space, clear your mind, and get ready to roll!

Go!

- 1 Roll the cubes.
- 2 Use the cubes to create a 2-digit times 1-digit multiplication problem.
- 3 Have each player record his or her problem and find the product.
- 4 Roll the cubes again.
- 5 Create a problem, and add the product to the product from the first roll.
- 6 Continue to roll and add the products. The winner is the first player whose sum reaches 1,000.

Grade 4 • Chapter 4 Multiply with One-Digit Numbers