

TeachME Professional Development

Enriching Math Skills in the Lower Grades

1. The average preschool spends approximately how many seconds per day on math instruction?

- A. 58
 - B. 109
 - C. 12
 - D. 62
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2. If a child is able to rattle off the numbers from 1-100, what does this necessarily show?

- A. Numeric awareness
 - B. Pattern recognition
 - C. Mathematical competency
 - D. Memorization skills
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3. A young student looks at a group of four apples and informs you, without counting from one to four, that there are four apples present. What skill is the student demonstrating?

- A. Subtracting
 - B. Synthesizing
 - C. Subitizing
 - D. Summing
-

4. When you use fun, recognizable objects such as stuffed toys in order to help children visualize the counting and operations problems you ask, what are you helping them do?

- A. Become more interested in the process of mathematics
 - B. Connect the phonological idea of the name of a number to the number of objects they visually see
 - C. Incorporate a memorable visual that can help them remember your lesson
 - D. Provide motivation for getting the question right, as you'll give them the toy afterward
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5. According to some experts, which of the following is potentially a better choice for introductory math activities than counting drills?

- A. Measurement**
 - B. Music**
 - C. Dancing in a group**
 - D. Drawing with shapes**
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6. One professor of child development noted that mathematics is the language of what higher-order brand of knowledge?

- A. Statistics**
 - B. Logic**
 - C. Scientific knowledge**
 - D. Categorizing**
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7. Each of us, 'math people' or not, operates with subconscious mastery of numeracy in our lives. Which one of these everyday actions is an example of numeracy in action?

- A. We can recognize numerical counts in songs we haven't heard in years**
 - B. We can recognize mathematical concepts in the spoken word**
 - C. We can make a delicious recipe without using measurements**
 - D. We can populate missing segments of patterns**
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8. Brain scans of children who were doing simple math problems showed that many parts of the brain lit up during this activity, including which of the following?

- A. The right and left areas of the frontal lobe**
 - B. The vision and movement parts of the brain**
 - C. The brain stem**
 - D. The frontonasal zygmus**
-

9. Which attribute of commonly-accepted structures for literacy development are modern scholars positing that we should extrapolate to numeracy development?

- A. Repetition**
 - B. Creation**
 - C. Composition**
 - D. Comprehension**
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10. When young students observe their caretakers move around their environments, talk about their schedules, or manage multiple children during preschool activities, what numeracy skill are they subconsciously learning?

- A. Phonological awareness**
 - B. Pattern repetition**
 - C. Representation**
 - D. Spatial problem-solving**
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11. Which of these is the most beneficial reason that a young child's gameplay is similar to early math problems?

- A. Both are repetitive**
 - B. Both are more effective when done with others**
 - C. Both involve interpreting and executing basic tasks**
 - D. Both involve higher level logic**
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12. Activities like hopscotch, blocks, quilting or origami can help with numeracy development. Why?

- A. They involve counting**
 - B. They help a child strengthen visual-spatial awareness**
 - C. They involve repetition**
 - D. They emphasize pattern development**
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13. Why does it help when teachers use visual aids during math lessons?

- A. It helps appeal to many learning modalities**
 - B. It helps the presentation be more dynamic**
 - C. It gives the lesson a real-life feel**
 - D. It helps kids who are artistic pay attention**
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14. Rote counting is a

- A. Good way to teach young students about numbers**
 - B. Good memorization drill**
 - C. Good substitute for subitization**
 - D. Good substitute for early addition**
-

15. Experts propose that an effective numeracy educator:

- A. Incorporates math into activities throughout the day**
- B. Models different numeracy strategies for students**

- C. Has patience with struggling math learners**
 - D. Uses creative strategies to engage students in math**
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16. Several students have decided to play by pretending to be pirates. You have decided to help give their game an educational spin by asking them to draw a map to buried treasure. What skill have you helped your students strengthen?

- A. Their ability to recognize symbols and patterns**
 - B. Their imagination**
 - C. Their visual-spatial reasoning**
 - D. Their performance skills**
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17. Which of the following attributes about a student's classmates might be best to keep track of over time in order to learn measuring and graphing skills?

- A. Measuring height**
 - B. Graphing eye color among classmates**
 - C. Measuring shoe size**
 - D. Graphing hair color differences**
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18. When is likely the first time that a young student becomes aware of numbers?

- A. Through rote counting drills in school**
 - B. Through numeracy indicators in the home environment**
 - C. Through playing with blocks and other toys**
 - D. When they are read books that incorporate numbers**
-

19. Research has shown that working to make math more of three specific qualities will make it more accessible and interesting for children. What are those qualities?

- A. Accessible, engaging, entertaining**
 - B. Easy, breezy, beautiful**
 - C. Strategic, sensible, silly**
 - D. Beautiful, useful, understandable**
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20. On a recent national math assessment, what percent of fourth-grade students achieved a proficient score?

- A. 40%**
 - B. 60%**
 - C. 30%**
 - D. 55%**
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