

January

READING CHALLENGE

STUDENT CHALLENGE

Science is a fun! It is a cool subject. My challenge is for you to read a book about science or a book about a scientist and I will give you a charm for your necklace.

TEACHER'S CHALLENGE:

I love dogs, and I love reading about them. Read a book about a dog to receive a charm for your necklace!

TEACHER'S CHALLENGE:

Winter is here! Read a book about winter, snow or snowmen, and I will give you a charm for your necklace.

TEACHER'S CHALLENGE:

Biographies are books about people. There are so many great biographies to read. Choose one to read, and I will give you a charm for your necklace!

TEACHER'S CHALLENGE:

I enjoy reading about people and places. Read a book about any country, and I will give you a charm for your necklace.





How does the math challenge work?

Each month, students will receive a math chart with activities on it. Student may choose which activities they wish to complete. To earn a challenge charm, a student must complete a row of activities, similar to a bingo game. Students may do activities across, down or diagonally. The middle square is a free square. Students return their completed chart to earn a charm for their necklace. Please note that students only turn in their chart. They do not have to turn in any of the activity pieces, but may do so if they choose.

Families are encouraged to be creative with the activities. Your child will gain valuable skills while having fun!

A Guide to the Board

Play a Card Game-Families can choose any card game to meet this task challenge. Playing cards is an excellent way to build math skills and higher order thinking skills as children learn to master strategy. For younger children Go Fish or Memory are great games. Older children are ready for Rummy, Cribbage, or Hearts. The attached packet available at the school with several card games designed to help students build math skills.

Principal's Challenge-The Principal's Challenge is a district-wide challenge. Each student has the opportunity to demonstrate mastery of grade level math fact fluency skills. Details for each challenge are available in the office. When a student passes the challenge he/she receives a certificate and a math medal from Mrs. Silk.

Practice Math Facts-Every student is working to master math facts. Generally the following are guidelines for each grade. If your child has mastered these facts, move to the next grade level.

PreK-Count orally to 30, count objects to 15.

Kindergarten-Count and write numbers to 30

First Grade-Addition and subtraction, single digits to 20

Second Grade-Addition and subtraction, single and double digits to 20

Third Grade-Addition, subtraction, multiplication and division

Read a Math Book-There are lots of math-related books in our library. Your child can ask Mrs. Campbell to help them find one during library class. Some favorites are *Math Curse*, *The Lion's Share*, and *One Grain of Rice*.

Play a math game-There are so many opportunities to play games while driving in the car. You could choose from I Spy, to Skip Counting, to Scavenger Hunts where the driver has the child find specific items. More items are included in the math packet.

Draw or create a pattern-Again there are a lot of options here. Students can draw a simple or complex pattern, create a piece of patterned jewelry, build a structure with a pattern, or develop a code based on a pattern.

Math Coloring Sheet-There are different coloring sheets in the packet. Choose the one that challenges your child to complete.

Play a board game-Any board game helps children develop skills, and it is a great way for a family to spend time together!

Practice skip counting-Generally children count by 1's (1, 2, 3, etc.) Challenge them to count by 2's (2,4, 6, etc.), 5's (5, 10, 15, etc.). As your child gets better at this, choose bigger numbers.

Matching socks-Sorting and matching are excellent skills for children to master. Helping do chores helps build responsibility. This is a win-win activity!

Grocery Store Bingo-Instructions for this game are included in the packet.

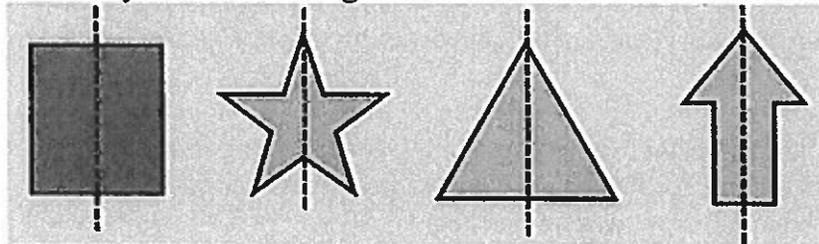
Sort Silverware-As mentioned above, sorting is an important skill and doing chores develops responsibility—another win-win activity.

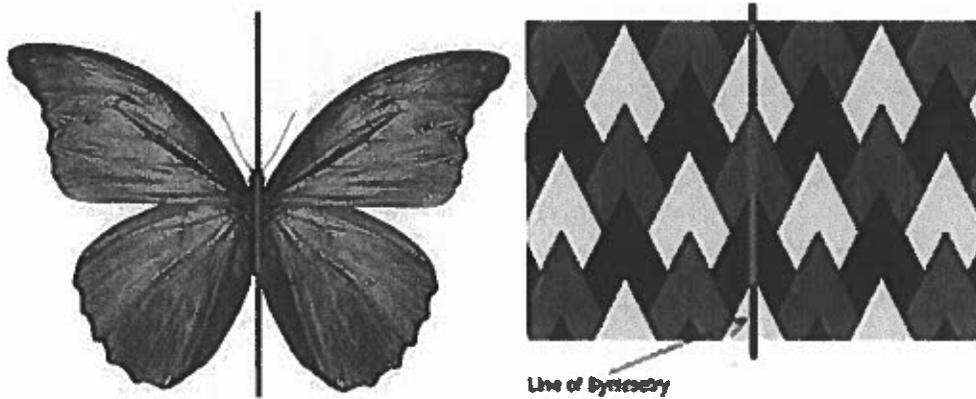
Follow a Recipe-Cooking helps children to follow directions, measure, build vocabulary, and best of all, eat the results!

Fire Truck Challenge-Label “houses” with numbers you want your child to practice. You could use anything for the house (boxes, paper, etc.) Once each house is labeled, put them in a neighborhood in order. Call the fire truck to report an emergency at a house and give the child the number. The child then drives the fire truck to the correct house to help with the emergency. A twist could be to change the fire truck to a snow plow and have different houses call to have their driveways plowed.

Make a Graph Using Data-The student should collect information on any topic. He/she could chart the outside temperature for a week, or survey family members about their favorite foods, or count how many windows each house in your neighborhood has facing the road. Any data will work. Students should compile their data and show the information on a graph.

Make a Picture that has Symmetry-Symmetry is an important math concept. It basically means if you cut something in half each side would mirror the other. Here are some examples:





Shape Scavenger Hunt-Make a list of shapes (circle, square, triangle, etc.) make the list harder for older students (cylinder, prism, octagon, etc.). Go on a walk or drive to find the items. If you have enough players, split into teams.

Put a puzzle together-Putting puzzles together is a great family activity!

Play a math memory game-You can make your own game using index cards or paper or use the ones included in the math packet.

License Plate Scavenger Hunt-There are lots of ways to play this game. You could have everyone look for a plate with any given number. You could have players look for a plate with two specific numbers. You could ask players to find plates with three numbers in a row (1-2-3).

Map your house-Use pencil and paper to draw the layout of your house. Older students should use a ruler and make the rooms somewhat to scale.

Measure objects using your feet-Have students estimate how many “feet” objects are and then “measure” them. For example, how many feet is the couch? Students may guess 8 feet. Walking toe to heel, student should count how many of their feet it takes to walk the length of the couch.

Dice Games-Playing games with dice is a great way to build math skills. There are ideas for games in the math packet.

Use tangrams to make animal pictures-Tangrams and pictures are included in the math packet.

Solve a Suduko puzzle-Sample puzzles are included in the math packet.