

Numeracy Strategies - At Home Ideas

1. Look for and engage your child in practical numeracy activities around the home (doubling a recipe, working out prices and change). Playing shop, giving change and using coins and notes is very beneficial for learning.

2. Encourage your child to understand the measures used for money, weight and distance, time, volume and area in and around the home.



	(M)
Gosford	74
Wyong	91
Hexham	156
Newcastle	160
Maitland	162
Brisbane	931

3. Work out distances when driving by reading signs e.g. "We have travelled 5 kilometres, how many more kilometres will we travel to get to Sydney?" "If we are travelling at 100km per hour, how long will it take?"

MONEY

3. When shopping, estimate and check the weight of fruit and veggies, ask questions such as "If a kg of apples cost \$5, how much would half a kilo cost?" "If one pkt of biscuits cost \$1.50, how much would 5 cost?" "Find the cheapest / most expensive item on the shelf" "Estimate how much the trolley full of shopping will cost - who can get the closest"

4. Investigate costs for family trips together. For example, a visit to a theme park may include transport costs, entry ticket costs and food costs.



5. Discuss saving money for presents or something your child may want to buy.

Work out how long it will take to save this much if they get a small amount of money each week.

6. Negotiate increases in pocket money as percentages. For example, a 5% increase would be how much money per week?

7. Encourage your child to save a percentage of their pocket money or birthday money, and work out how much this would be. For example, how much money would you have if you saved 40% each week?

8. Calculate together how much a mobile phone costs per month. How much is spent on messages and how much on phone calls?

9. Encourage and engage your child in simple addition, multiplication, subtraction and division around the home. Try the number plate game. When you see a number plate on a passing vehicle ask your child to add the numbers, subtract the numbers or multiply the numbers.



10. Engage your child in opportunities around fractions, especially halves, thirds and quarters e.g. cutting up pizza, oranges, sharing lollies / pegs evenly.

SPORTS scores

11. How does your favourite sport tally the score? What maths is presented on the tally?

12. How do other sports tally the score, for example, tennis, golf, cricket, netball, football?

13. What maths do you use to find the total of the scores?

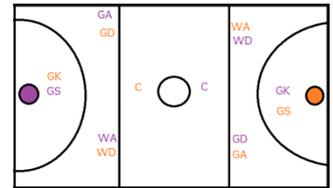
14. Are there other ways to record the score?



15. How long do your favourite sport games go for in minutes and seconds? Are they divided into halves, quarters or something else?

16. What are the shapes of different playing fields and courts? Talk about edges and angles.

17. How can you estimate the perimeter and area of a playing field?



WEATHER maps

18. Visit the website <http://www.bom.gov.au/weather/nsw/> or look at the weather maps in the newspaper.

19. What is the difference between the minimum and maximum temperature for each day?

20. Find a seven-day forecast then record the actual temperature for each day and compare. Was the forecast accurate? What were the similarities and differences?

21. Use the information on the weather website to explore differences in weather from your area to others. How much rain do you get compared to others? Are there differences in temperature?



CATALOGUES

22. How would you spend \$40 from a catalogue? How many products can you buy for \$40?

23. Select five products from the catalogue then calculate what the cost be if there was a 50% sale. Does it make a difference if you add up the items, and then deduct 50%, or if each item is reduced by 50% then totalled?

24. What is the best value sale item in the catalogue? Can you explain your reasoning?

25. What are the cheapest and most expensive items in your catalogue?

26. Compare the cost of a product across different stores using different catalogues. What did you find?



NEWSPAPERS

27. On the front page, estimate the percentage of picture and text. Does this vary over the first four pages?

28. Research the cost per word/line to put a classified advertisement in the newspaper. Calculate how much it would cost to put an advertisement in the classified section.

29. Find numbers in the newspaper, in digits and in words. Cut the numbers out and put them in order from smallest number to largest number.

30. Visit the section that advertises entertainment. Select an event or movie. Find out how much the tickets are. How much would it cost for your family to attend?

31. Try the number puzzles such as Sudoku, in the puzzle section of the newspaper or online.