

Summer Solving (part 2) By: Katherine Estep, Mathematics Coach K-5



- **Vacation!** Going on vacation? Perhaps a road trip? Play “Guess My Number!” Choose a number and give your child hints as to what that number could be. Hints could include if the number is even or odd, factors or multiples of the number, what happens when you double it, etc. Use vocabulary words such as sum, difference, product, quotient, etc. depending on your child’s grade level. Instead of giving hints, you could also let your child ask 20 yes-or-no questions. Guide them in their questioning so they understand why “Is the number even?” is a better question than “Is the number 8?”

Play “Make My Number.” Choose a number and see how many different ways your child could make that number. For example, 12 can be made by 2×6 , $10 + 2$, $15 - 3$, etc.

Vacationing at the beach? Perfect! Throw a ruler in your sand pail and see who can build the highest (longest, widest, etc.) sand castle. Practice making geometric shapes in the sand or make shapes with symmetry.

- **Technology!** It’s a beautiful thing. Check out these websites for more math fun:

- <http://www.toytheater.com/index.php>
- <http://www.mathforum.com/>
- <http://www.coolmath.com/>
- <http://www.aaamath.com/>
- <http://www.figurethis.org/>
- <http://www.mathcats.com/>
- <http://www.younginvestor.com/>
- <http://www.funbrain.com/numbers.html>

- <http://www.mathplayground.com/>
- **Read!** What?! Yes, read. Mathematical literacy is very important! The following are a list of fun and funny math books to enjoy over the summer!
 - The Number Devil by Hans Magnus Enzensberger
 - Math Curse by Jon Scieszka
 - The Grapes of Math by Greg Tang and Harry Briggs
 - The Greedy Triangle by Marilyn Burns
 - Sir Cumference... by Cindy Neuschwander and Wayne Geehan
 - What's Your Angle Pythagoras? by Julie Ellis
 - Multiplying Menace by Pam Calvert
 - Mummy Math by Cindy Neuschwander

If you have any questions or would like any other recommendations, please contact me at kestep@woodburysch.com. Enjoy your summer and happy solving! ☺