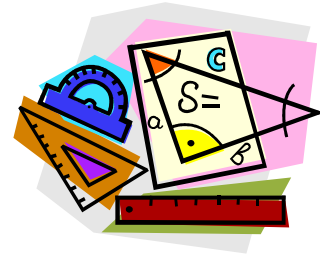


Why is math practice so important?

I am no math expert but I believe that practicing math is important for our children. Mastering any skill, whether it is music, sports, or math, takes practice - lots of practice. You may have bought into the deceptions of "drill is bad, we should teach concepts". It is not that simple. Mindless drill without teaching concepts and patterns in the math facts is sort of futile, but drill and practice of math facts has its place.



Let's take multiplication facts. Children must understand the concept first, and then they realize patterns in multiplication facts. Once they discover that, then you can show them some tricks and such, and ultimately they need to practice to be fluent with their facts.

Practicing basic addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division facts is important. In fact, it's crucial if your child wish to do well in Math. If your child know the facts, any math topic that they will face later in their education will come easy for them. Fractions, decimals, and percents will come as easy as a pie.



If your children are not fluent with their math facts and not proficient with their basic math skills, they will have a harder time studying math later in their Junior High and High School years. Often times our children get frustrated in math and started thinking that they are just 'no good' in math. Parents, you need to prevent that! Start helping them with their basic math skills. Give them confidence in Math!

If you agree that having a fundamental math skills are important to your child, you should sign up your child on Math in Action Online Program. This year we are using the number one math practice site www.IXL.com. Go ahead check it out. You can practice and answer 20 questions for free and you can also see a sample question in each skill. The program also allows you to adapt to your child's ability. It is suitable for those who are struggling as well as those who want to advance beyond their grade level.

A \$15 special rate is offered for Rockwell students when you register through Math in Action. It's good for the entire school year. Log on to www.mathinaction.org for more information and to register. If you have any question, please feel free to contact Elly Sarwono at mathinaction@gmail.com.