

From: Karen Malin
Sent: Wednesday, June 16, 2010 3:15 PM
Subject: Basic Fact Math Practice

I wanted to let you know about some resources we have posted on line to help your child practice their basic math facts over the summer in a fun and engaging way. Research has shown that students who have automatic recall of their addition, subtraction, multiplication and division facts, have more cognitive energy for problem solving and higher level math thinking. Without regular practice, these facts become harder to retrieve, making it more difficult for children to concentrate on word problems, logic problems, and higher order arithmetic.

At the end of the year, students in third through fifth grade were assessed on their recall of the basic facts to 20. Every summer, students return to school having lost some of their ability to quickly recall math facts, and it is our hope that by practicing during the summer (10-15 minutes a day, 3 times a week) they will be able to keep their recollection sharp, and be ready to take off with new and exciting concepts in the fall at their new math level. Teachers hope that students will return with at least the same level of expertise that they had in the spring.

On the Seven Hills Web page, you will find a link to Summer Math and Reading. Through that link you will find resources for math games that your child can play on line to help keep these math facts fresh. You might also consider games that the entire family can play, such as Yahtzee and Equality, that provide fun math practice. Check out this web site, <http://letsplaymath.net/2006/12/29/the-game-that-is-worth-1000-worksheets>, for another way to practice math facts with a deck of cards.

In addition, I hope that you find lots of ways to multiply your fun playing with numbers and it doesn't subtract from your enjoyment of the summer.

See you in the fall.

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