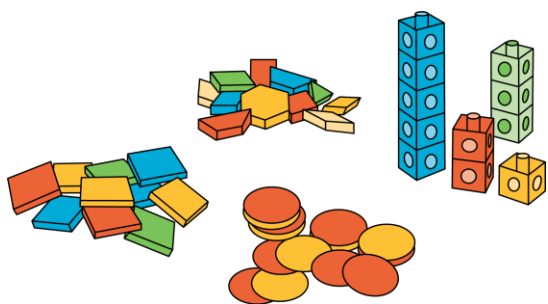


Dear Families,

As we launch the school year together we begin to build our math community. Some of our work will be virtual including digital videos, meetings, and images; and some will happen at home, including scavenger hunts, using everyday objects to begin understanding numbers, and recognizing and counting objects. Throughout the unit your student will be invited to notice math all around us, for example:

- Counting steps
- Counting out items for family or friends and asking, “are there enough?”
- Playing board games where students move a square as they count
- Figuring out “how many?” when looking at a set of objects

During this first unit, students begin seeing themselves as mathematicians as they explore, reason, experiment, and play with mathematical ideas! Included throughout this unit are prompts and questions you can ask and games that can spark conversation and curiosity. As students talk about math, our focus, especially in this first unit, is building on things students notice and wonder. While new vocabulary may be introduced, we celebrate students' unique informal descriptions and observations.



As you move through the activities with your student, you will find the use of math tools is encouraged. At times, digital tools or specific math tools are suggested, other times students can use objects at home (buttons, pennies, paper clips, etc).

Throughout the unit you will find continual opportunities to check in on the math your student knows and is able to do around the concepts in the unit. Each opportunity serves to further our positive connection to the world of math and should not be approached with worry or pressure.

Your observations and questions about your student's thinking will be incredibly helpful to me as we work together during the year.

By the end of Unit 1, students will have experiences with:

- Identifying numbers on a dice without counting each dot
- Counting a set of 5 objects
- Counting out loud to 10

We hope the invitations for conversation and play will result in many fun and unexpected discoveries together and, more than anything, we hope this unit will continue to build a positive connection to the world of math and a sense that math is all around us and for all of us.