

Why are Mathematics and Science Important?

Our world is changing. Today, we rely on mathematics and science in ways we could not imagine thirty years ago. Innovations in technology help us communicate across the globe with ease through satellites, the internet, and cell phones. They also help us every day to work better and even pay our bills on-line. Advances in medicine and science improve our health and help us to understand the world around us. From balancing a household budget to preparing taxes to following a recipe, mathematics and science touch every part of our lives.

Think ahead to what the world will be like when your child is an adult. What skills will your child need to succeed in life and work in our changing world? A strong background in mathematics and science will prepare your child for college or work after graduation and open doors to higher paying jobs and greater opportunity over a lifetime.

What is Mathematics Counts & Science Matters?

"Mathematics Counts & Science Matters" provides parents of children in grades K-8 with helpful resources they can use to support their child's math and science learning. All materials are written in parent-friendly language and include:

- Parent guides to essential mathematics concepts your child needs to learn at each grade
- Web and community resources, and more.

The program partners with parents, schools, and community organizations to coordinate mathematics and science programs, and lays the foundation for success in school, and beyond.

Parents, you are the single greatest influence on your child. Believe it or not, your child is listening to you. Talk to your child about how important mathematics and science are to his or her future. Help your child set high goals and reach his or her highest potential. Remember, Mathematics Counts & Science Matters!

Mathematics Counts and Science Matters!

- Student performance in math and science in the U.S. lags behind students in other countries.
- Help prepare your child for college and higher paying jobs by encouraging your child to take more challenging math and science courses.

Parents: Get Involved and Stay Involved

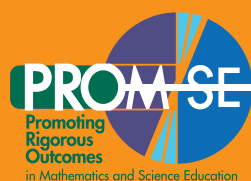
- Courses have changed since you were in school! Students are required to know more math and science now.
- Be a positive force in helping your child. Share positive messages about the importance of math and science.
- Check to make sure all homework is complete.

Parent-Teacher Partnerships Are Important

- Talk to your child's teacher about getting extra help when your child needs it.
- Ask your child's teacher about helpful resources provided by the schools and community agencies to support your child's math and science learning.

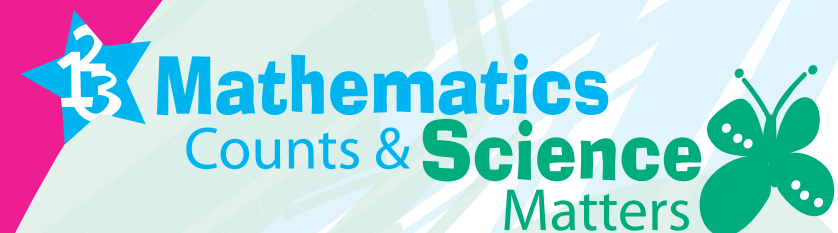
What Can Parents Do?

- Spread the word about the importance of mathematics and science to other parents.
- Use the grade-level "Parent Guide to Mathematics" to monitor your child's progress and learning.
- Help identify successful programs and resources that assist parents and students.
- Contact the school and district for materials and parent help.
- Be a volunteer! If you are interested in helping with "Mathematics Counts & Science Matters", please let us know.



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Visit "Mathematics Counts & Science Matters" at
www.promse.msu.edu

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