A Parent Guide to

Mathematics

Math in 6th grade focuses on developing understanding and proficiency with fractions and considering how fractions are used in different ways (e.g., percentages, decimals, probabilities). Based on national curriculum recommendations and reflecting Ohio Academic Content Standards, the following describes some of the central mathematical skills and understandings that students should acquire by the end of sixth grade.

Number and Operations

Fractions

- 1. Write a decimal as a fraction in the form a/b, where b \neq 0, and vise versa (e.g., 3.02 is the same as 302/100, and 3/4 is the same as the decimal 0.75)
- 2. Multiply and divide any two fractions, including mixed numbers (e.g., $1^{1}/_{2} \div {}^{3}/_{4} = 2$; ${}^{5}/_{6} \times 2 {}^{1}/_{2} = 2^{1}/_{12}$)
- 3. Add, subtract, multiply, and divide integers between 10 and -10 and locate them on a number line (e.g., -4 + -10 = -14; $-3 \times 4 = -12$)
- 4. Solve problems involving fractions, in particular, problems involving decimals and percentages
- 5. Solve for unknowns in equations that involve fractions (e.g., $\frac{1}{4} \div \Box = 1$ and $\frac{3}{4} \div \Box = \frac{1}{4}$)

Algebra

Expressions and Equations

- 6. Use symbols to write math expressions, combine like terms, and evaluate expressions for given numbers
 (e.g., 2x + 3 + 5x + 1 simplifies to 7x + 4, for x = 2, 7x + 4 = 18)
- 7. Represent simple relationships between quantities using words, equations, tables, and graphs

Linear Equations

- 8. Solve problems involving rates, such as speed of a car (e.g., If a car averages 50 miles per hour how far will it go in 3¹/₂ hours?)
- 9. Solve equations of the form ax + b = c where a, b, and c are positive whole numbers less than 20 (e.g., for the equation 3x + 8 = 14, the solution is x = 2)
- 10. Solve problems involving linear relationships; graph the relationship, write an equation and use the graph and equation to answer questions (e.g., Given "c" chairs, each with 4 legs, the number of legs is 4c. If you have 5 chairs, how many legs do you have? If you have 12 legs, how many chairs do you have?)

Tips and Activities for Parents

- Play games with your child such as checkers, board games, chess and increasingly complex card games. All involve problem solving and logic, and all are based on mathematics.
- Take your child to the grocery store for comparison shopping. Ask questions such as "Are 3 oranges for \$.79 or a dozen oranges for \$3.19 the better buy?"
- Help your child find the sales tax. Have your child select items from a store, sales ad in the newspaper or a catalog book. Use the sales tax rate to find the total cost of items if purchased.
 - When eating out, have your child figure how much to leave for a tip.

Internet Resources for Sixth Grade Math

Sorted by grade level, this site provides practice in basic math skills using unlimited interactive practice, explanations and examples, and challenge games. Hundreds of Pages. www.aaamath.com/grade6.htm

Elementary mathematics links for grades 4-6 mathematics practice, including Fill and Pour · The Fruit Game · Mastermind · Math Maven's Mysteries · Math Teaser Challenge · Number Sense. www.sowashco.k12.mn.us/virtualmedia/elementary/math/4-6math.htm

Interested in mathematics, check out these mathematics pages. www.kidport.com/Grade6/Math/MathIndex.htm

An assortment of math brain activities - 25 Board Games to teach skills. www.k111.k12.il.us/King/math.htm

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

Local Partner: SMART Consortium www.smartconsortium.org



"Mathematics Counts & Science Matters" provides parents of children in grades K-8 with helpful resources they can use to support their child's math learning. The content of this guide is based on grade-level recommendations from the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, the National Mathematics Panel, and PROM/SE: Promoting Rigorous Outcomes in Mathematics and Science Education. These recommendations may be more advanced than state guidelines. Mathematics Counts & Science Matters is developed by Michigan State University's PROM/SE (Promoting Rigorous Outcomes in Mathematics and Science Education). Funded by Michigan State University and the National Science Foundation.

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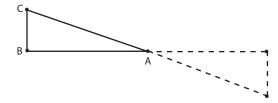
Grade

Mathematics — Grade 6 (cont.)

Geometry

Basic Properties

11. Understand the concept of congruence with respect to angles and polygons and how flipping, rotating, and sliding these relate to congruence (e.g., If you rotate a triangle 180 degrees about point A, the triangle will be congruent to the original triangle and in a different position)



12. Understand and apply relationships among lines, angles, and triangles (e.g., the sum of the angles in a triangle is 180°)

Measurement

Volume and Surface Area

- 13. Find the volume and surface area of cubes and rectangular prisms
- 14. Convert between basic units of measurement within a single measurement system (e.g., square feet to square yards)

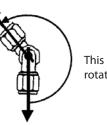
Data and Probability

Understand Probability

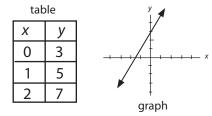
- 15. Understand that probabilities are fractions between 0 and 1 and can be represented in the form a/b, where a and b are integers, or in decimal form or as a percentage
- 16. Know the probability of an event is the ratio of the number of desired cases divided by the number of possible cases (assuming all cases are equally likely); a probability of "0" means an event will not happen, and a probability of "1" means an event will occur

Glossary — Grade 6

Angle – (1) two rays sharing a common endpoint, (2) the turn about a point



- Congruent exactly the same shape and size
- **Expression** a sequence containing numbers, symbols, and operations that can be used to represent a quantity (e.g., 3x + 5)
- **Equation** a sentence where two mathematical expressions are equal (e.g., 2x + 6 = 20 or 4x + 4 = x + 16)
- Integers whole numbers and their opposites (e.g., … -3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, …)
- **Linear Equations** relationships between two guantities whose graph is a line that can be written in the form y = ax + b (e.g., graph of y = 2x + 3 is a line)



Rectangular Prism – a three-dimensional figure with six faces (sides) that are all rectangles



This is an example of a 220° angle of rotation; measured counter-clockwise.

Rectangular Prism



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