

St. Thomas's Day School believes that summer is a wonderful time for children to engage in fun-filled math activities and real-world math experiences. Math is inherent in almost all summer experiences—trips, ball games, sports, board games, trading cards, puzzles, camps and cooking. It is everywhere! The enclosed list includes family-oriented activities that aim to maintain math facility in a fun and interesting way while reinforcing the intrinsic value that your family places upon mathematical development. The activities are recommended, but not required. The goal is for you to have fun with your child.

St. Thomas's Day School



Summers are wonderful. Never forget your summers. Stuart Little

**Summer Math
Entering 1st Grade**

Summer Math Goals

- Develop an understanding about how math pertains to the real world.
- Promote life-long learning habits.
- Foster math as a shared experience between parent and child.
- Broaden children's interests and stimulate their imaginations.
- Engage in meaningful conversations about math
- Prepare children for the future.
- Promote critical thinking and problem solving abilities.
- Have fun!

Math Matters!

- Children who practice math frequently, understand the world around them better.
- Math is a language that describes the ideas that make up our world.
- Math activities can promote critical thinking and problem solving skills.
- Math is the foundation for many sciences and for music.
- Math is interesting and can stimulate your mind.
- Mathematics is woven throughout almost everything we do.
- The process of learning math boosts your brain power.

Recommendations

- Ask your child to count the number of street signs he/she sees while traveling.
- Ask your child to look for shapes around your home and make a card identifying each kind of shape he/she finds.
- Pull out a pocketful of change and ask your child to sort and identify the coins.
- Ask your child to help you measure out ingredients while you are cooking.
- Help your child set up a pretend store or restaurant.
- See who can find the number with the highest value in the grocery store.
- Practice identifying what number comes before and after a given number (1-100).

MATHEMATICS Is Fun!

Summer Reading Entering 1st Grade

St. Thomas's Day School



At St. Thomas's Day School, we seek to make children life-long readers by nurturing an early interest in books and by encouraging recreational reading. We strive to instill confidence so that the children become independent readers who love literature. This includes building good habits and teaching the children the importance of reading every single day. We believe that children need opportunities to discuss, reflect, listen to, and question texts from a variety of genres.

We think we can, so we can.

Summer Reading Goals

- Promote life-long reading habits.
- Foster reading as a shared experience that includes reading aloud to and with your child.
- Broaden children's interests and stimulate their imaginations.
- Engage in meaningful discussions about books.
- Discover different viewpoints and literacy genres.
- Build vocabulary, enhance fluency, and deepen understanding.

Reading Matters!

- Children who read often, read better.
- Reading exercises our brains and improves concentration.
- Reading teaches children about the world around them.
- Reading improves vocabulary and develops a child's imagination.
- Reading helps kids develop empathy.
- Children who engage in the reading process perform better academically.
- Reading is entertaining and stretches the mind.

Recommendations

- Read to your child each day for 20 minutes.
- Plan time for your child to entertain him/herself with only reading material each day.
- Let your child observe you reading.
- Talk about the reading you and your child are doing.
- Take your child to the public library. Make sure your child has a library card.
- Attend library or book readings with your child.
- Ask your child to draw a picture of a favorite part of a book.
- Listen to an audio book.
www.audiobooks.com

Be Sure to READ! READ! READ!

Suggested Summer Language Arts Activities
St. Thomas's Day School - Rising First Grade

The following is a list of activities that you may want to do over the summer with your child to have fun with reading and writing. The activities span a variety of levels and some of them may be difficult for your child. The activities are meant to be completed with an adult.

Letter Toss

Write the letters of the alphabet on small pieces of paper and put them in a cupcake tin with one letter in each tin. Toss a pom pom or other small object into the tin. Use the letter you land on to write a word that starts with that sound. For example, if the pom pom landed in -L, you could write "lion". Repeat the game, creating as many words as you can. If you need a challenge, write word endings (-at, -an, -ap, ot, op, ed,...) on the small pieces of paper. When you get a word ending, create and write a word that ends with that ending.

Salt Writing

Pour some salt into a flat tray or cookie tray. Use your fingers to write the letters of the alphabet in the salt. Write your name in the salt. Practice spelling 3-letter words in the salt.

Story Crowns

After reading a book, use a piece of paper and tape to make a crown. On the crown, draw a picture of your favorite character in the story. Be sure to write the name of that character on the crown. Whenever someone asks you about your crown, tell them the story of your character.

Concentration

Create a deck of letter cards using index cards. Be sure to make two cards for each letter. Shuffle the deck and lay them down. Take turns with a partner finding matches. The player with the most pairs wins. As you become familiar with the letters in your deck, practice saying the sounds that each letter makes. If you need more of a challenge, make cards with 3-letter words on them.

Letter Tubs

Choose a letter of the alphabet to focus on. Find a small container or box. Fill the box or container with objects that start with the sound of the letter you are focusing on. On a piece of paper, draw a picture of each object you found. Share your work with someone in your home. For a challenge, make a list of all of the objects in your container by sounding out the words and writing the sounds you hear.

Create a Menu

Pretend you are the manager of a restaurant and you need a menu. Cut out pictures of food and paste them on a sheet of paper to make a menu. Make pages for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Write what each food is by sounding out each word and writing the sounds that you hear. Read your menu to someone in your home.

Alphabet Books

Make a book that has a page for each letter of the alphabet. Draw or find at least 5 pictures for each letter and paste them on the page with the corresponding letter. Write the names of each picture by sounding out the words and writing the sounds that you hear. Read your book to an adult.

Story Character Puppets

Ask an adult to read you a story. Use paper, pencils, markers, tape, glue, or any materials you have at home to draw the characters from the story. Cut the characters out and attach each one to a popsicle stick to make puppets. Use the puppets to put on a puppet show of the story. Then, create a new story about the same characters using the puppets you made.

You are the Teacher!

Set up a collection of dolls, animals, or stuffed friends in a pretend classroom. Pretend you are the teacher and are holding a morning meeting. Start by making a morning message. Be sure to include the weather and something fun you plan to do that day. Read the message to your students. If there is time, review the letters of the alphabet and the sound that they make.

I Spy

Have a person in your home look around to find an object. Without identifying what the object is, the person should describe the object using the phrase, "I spy with my little eye, something__". In the blank, the person adds an adjective or short phrase that gives information about the object. You try to guess what the object is. Then, you switch places; You describe an object and the person guesses what it is.

Grocery List

Help an adult get ready for a trip to the grocery store by writing his/her list for them. On a piece of paper, write all of the things that your family needs from the grocery store. Practice sounding out the words and writing the sounds that you hear. Throughout the week, add things to the list as you think of them. When it is time to go to the store, remember to bring the list so you know what to get.

Send a Message

Stay in touch with a friend by sending him/her a special message in the mail. Draw a picture of something fun or interesting that you have been doing. Write a word or sentence to match your picture by writing down the sounds that you hear. An adult can help you write your message if that feels easier. When you are finished, put your message in an envelope and send it to your friend. If you are lucky, your friend will send you a message back!

Optional Skill Review

For those of you who would like additional practice in the area of language arts, Tri-C Publication, Inc. offers a **Summer Language Arts Review** workbook. The book contains a skill review with an answer key and can be ordered at https://www.summerskills.com/summer_skills_books/language_arts_books/. When ordering, please keep in mind that the summer skills book for the grade just completed is appropriate for most students.

Suggested Summer Math Activities
St. Thomas's Day School - Entering First Grade

The following is a list of activities that you may want to do over the summer with your child to have fun with math. The activities span a variety of levels and some of them may be difficult for your child. The activities are meant to be completed with an adult.

What Can I Buy?

Before you head out to the store with your child, give your child some coins that you have in your pocket or purse (enough to buy at least one item). Help your child add up the value of the coins. Find an item on your shopping list that costs less than how much your child has. Give your child the responsibility of finding that item as you walk through the aisles. After your child finds the item, help him/her find out how much it costs, and figure out if s/he has enough. Help him/her count out the change to buy the item when you get to the cash register.

What Time Is It?

Purchase an analog clock. Give your child a demonstration on how the hour and minute hands move on a clock. Put the clock in a location that is easy for your child to see. When your child asks the time, look together to try and work it out. Start by asking him/her, "What time is the hour hand closest to?" Slowly increase the difficulty of the questions.

An Organized Snack

The next time your child has a snack (like animal crackers, cereal etc.) allow him/her to "play" with their snack. Ask your child to put the snack in a straight line, designating one side as the beginning and the other side as the end. Tell your child the order in which to eat the pieces. (Ex: "Eat the pretzel that is third from the front.") Your child then has to find the correct piece. Confirm s/he is correct before allowing him/her to eat. Repeat until your child's snack is finished, or after a couple of rounds.

Organizing Numbers

Write out the numbers from 1-20 on separate pieces of paper. Mix them all up in a small bowl and have your child pick one number. Ask your child to say the next four numbers that come after that number.

Personal Calendar

Create a calendar for the present month with your child. Tell your child that it is his/her responsibility to fill up this calendar with pictures or words that mark special events that s/he has planned with family/friends, play dates, extracurricular activities, etc. Start your child off by filling out any birthdays for that month with him/her. As things come up during the weeks (ex: picnic, party, trip to grandma's house etc.), tell your child and remind him/her to fill it in the calendar. As a morning routine, ask your child to check the calendar and tell you what activities s/he has on that day.

Dreambox

Have your child spend time reviewing the skills that were taught in Kindergarten using Dreambox. Dreambox can be accessed from any computer, 24 hours a day using the link:

<https://play.dreambox.com/login/aaft/sttds>

To access Dreambox from an iPad, go to <http://www.dreambox.com/ipad> or search for "Dreambox Math" in the App Store. When prompted in the app, use this School Code: aaft/sttds. Your child's name can be found in the class STTS-K.

Sticks and Stones

With your child, go outside and collect some twigs and pebbles (or straws and pennies). Collect at least 10 of each. Give the twigs and pebbles to your child. Ask him/her to use some of them to make a picture, or to write out his/her initials. When s/he has finished, count how many units s/he used. Explain that each twig is 10 units and each pebble is one unit. Count the twigs by tens and then add the pebbles by ones. How many units did your child use? Take turns. Now, you make some sort of design or picture using the twigs and pebbles. Have your child count how many units you used. If your child correctly counts, then let him/her have another turn. If s/he has difficulty, review how many units each object represents. Collect more than 10 twigs and pebbles. Encourage your child to create pictures using more than 10 of either item. Since there will be more than ten, each will carry over - the tens to hundreds and the singles to tens. See if your child understands the concept of carrying over. Offer him/her paper and pencil if necessary.

What's Next?

Pick and choose a variety of small objects that you can use to create patterns (ex: pieces of cereal, grapes, pencils, erasers, building blocks, etc.). Start with a two-piece pattern. Put down the first piece. Ask your child to pick the next piece (from all the options near you). Repeat the pattern by putting another piece like the first piece down. Ask your child to complete the pattern by adding the next three pieces. Repeat the process with different objects, adding on more objects when your child seems comfortable with the present number. Use objects that come in multiple colors to create patterns that have your child pay attention to color as well as shape.

Who Is the Tallest?

Have each person in your family lie down on the floor. Choose a non-standard unit (i.e. a set of playing cards, dominoes, spoons, or anything else you have that you can lay out end to end) and measure how tall each person is. Measure each person from head to toe. Show what you used as your measuring unit and how many you used to measure each person. Draw a picture of your family from shortest to tallest. Use math vocabulary to write about what you learned (shortest, tallest, taller than, shorter than).

Counting to 100

Collect 100 objects (e.g. 100 buttons, 100 paper clips, 100 pieces of pasta etc.). Find different ways to group and count your objects (e.g. by tens). Label how many in each group and how many different groups altogether. How many different ways can you find to put your objects into equal groups so that there are none leftover?

Going on a Shape Walk

Go on a walk in your local community with an adult to look for shapes. You may choose one specific shape to look for or you may decide to look for as many different shapes as you can. Name each shape you see and talk about its properties (e.g. how many sides does it have?). Keep a record of the shapes you see on your walk. You can draw pictures, take photographs, or write about the shapes you see.

Going on a Nature Hunt

Go on a nature hunt in your local community with an adult to look for items from nature that you will use to create number stories. Collect between 10-20 small items from nature (leaves, feathers, pebbles, acorns, flowers, etc.) and store them in a zip-lock bag. Write and solve at least three addition and subtraction number stories using the items collected. Record each number story using pictures, numbers, and words.

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Beginning Readers

- *Are You My Mother?* by P.D. Eastman
- *Biscuit* by Alyssa Satin Capucilli
- *Cat the Cat, Who Is That?* By Mo Willems
- *Dear Zoo* by Rod Campbell
- *The Fat Cat Sat on the Mat* by Nurit Karlin
- *The Fire Cat* by Ester Averill
- *Frog and Fly* by Jeff Mack
- *Frog and Toad series* by Arnold Lobel
- *Grizzwold* by Syd Hoff
- *Henry and Mudge series* by Cynthia Rylant
- *I Like Bugs* by Margaret Wise Brown
- *Insectlopedia* by Douglass Florian
- *Little Bear* by Maurice Sendak
- *Mitten series* by Lola M. Schaefer
- *Morris the Moose* by B. Wiseman
- *Orange Pear Apple Bear* by Emily Gravett
- *Owl at Home* by Arnold Lobel
- *Put Me in the Zoo* by Robert Lopshire
- *Rhyming Dust Bunnies* by Jan Thomas
- *See Me Run* by Paul Miesel
- *Up, Tall and High* by Ethan Long
- *We Are In a Book!* By Mo Willems
- *What Will Fat Cat Sit On?* by Jan Thomas
- *You Are Not Small* by Anna Kang

Rising 1st Grade

Picture Books

- *The Adventures of Beekle: The Unimaginary Friend* by Dan Santat
- *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day* by Judith Viorst
- *A Bad Case of Stripes* by David Shannon
- *Big Red Lollipop* by Rukhsana Khan
- *The Book With No Pictures* by B.J. Novak
- *Cat Heaven* by Cynthia Rylant
- *A Chair For My Mother* by Vera B. Williams
- *David Goes to School* by David Shannon
- *The Day the Crayons Came Home* by Drew Daywalt
- *Dragons Love Tacos* by Adam Rubin
- *Leonardo, the Terrible Monster* by Mo Willems
- *Little Melba and Her Big Trombone* by Katheryn Russell-Brown
- *The Night Before First Grade* by Natasha Wing
- *Shortcut* by Donald Crews
- *This is Not My Hat* by Jon Klassen
- *Waiting* by Kevin Henkes

Summer Reading List

Books to Read to Your Child

- *The 20th-Century Children's Book Treasury: Picture Books and Stories to Read Aloud* by Janet Schulman
- *Anna Hibiscus* by Atinuke
- *The Borrowers* by Mary Norton
- *The Complete Tales of Winnie the Pooh* by A.A. Milne
- *Fantastic Mr. Fox* by Roald Dahl
- *Ginger Pie* by Eleanor Estes
- *Gooney Bird Green series* by Lois Lowry
- *Hey! Listen to This: Stories to Read Aloud* by Jim Trelease
- *James and the Giant Peach* by Roald Dahl
- *The Littles* by John Peterson
- *The Mouse and the Motorcycle* by Beverly Cleary
- *My Father's Dragon* by Ruth Stiles Gannett
- *The Neighborhood Mother Goose* by Nina Crews
- *Stuart Little* by E.B. White
- *The Wind in the Willows* by Kenneth Grahame
- *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* by L. Frank Baum

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Counting Books

- *Amanda Bean's Amazing Dream* by Cindy Neuschwander
- *Chicka Chicka 1, 2, 3* by Bill Martin Jr. and Michael Sampson
- *Can't Sleep Without Sheep City by Numbers* by Stephen T. Johnson
- *Counting Our Way to Maine* by Maggie Smith
- *The Dogs in the Window* by Claire Masurel
- *Each Orange Had 8 Slices* by Jr. Giganti Paul
- *The Grapes of Math* by Greg Tang
- *How Much is a Million* by David Schwartz
- *The Jazz Man* by Karen Ehrhardt
- *One Hundred Hungry Ants* by Elinor J. Pinczes
- *One Was Johnny: A Counting Book* by Maurice Sendak
- *My Granny Went to Market* by Stella Blackstone
- *Perimeter, Area, and Volume* by David A. Adler
- *Spaghetti and Meatballs for All!* By Marilyn Burns
- *What Comes In 2's, 3's & 4's?* by Suzanne Aker
- *Wombat Walkabout* by Carol Diggory Shields
- *You Can Count on Gracie* by Joan Harrison

Rising 1st Grade

Information Books

- *Dirtmeister's Nitty Gritty Planet Earth: All About Rocks, Minerals, Fossils, Earthquakes, Volcanoes & Even Dirt* by Steve Tomecek
- *Encyclopedia of Animals* by DK
- *Gorillas* by Seymour Simon
- *Houses and Homes* by Ann Morris
- *Hungry, Hungry Sharks* by Joanne Cole
- *Hungry Plants* by Mary Batten
- *A Life Like Mine: How Children Live Around the World* by DK
- *The Moon Book* by Gail Gibbons
- *National Geographic Little Kids First Book of Why* by Amy Shields
- *National Geographic Readers: Rocks and Minerals* by Kathleen Weidner Zoefeld
- *Smithsonian Handbooks: Rocks & Minerals* by Chris Pellant
- *Sports Illustrated Kids Slam Dunk!: Top 10 Lists of Everything in Basketball* by Editors of Sports Illustrated
- *Time For Kids: Benjamin Franklin: A Man of Many Talents* by editors of Time for Kids
- *Tornadoes* by Gail Gibbons
- *Weird but True! 7: 300 Outrageous Facts* by National Geographic Kids
- *A Year at a Construction Site (Time Goes By)* by Nicholas Harris

Summer Reading List

2021 Nutmeg Nominees

- *After the Fall (How Humpty Dumpty Got Back Up Again)* by Dan Satat
- *Because* by Mo Willems
- *Borrowing Bunnies: A Surprising True Tale of Fostering Bunnies* by Cynthia Lord
- *The Cardboard Kingdom* by Chad Sell
- *Carter Reads the Newspaper* by Deborah Hopkinson
- *Game Changers: The Story of Venus and Serena Williams* by Lesa Cline-Ransome
- *Ida, Always* by Caron Levis
- *The Infamous Ratsos* by Kara LaReau
- *Jasmine Toguchi, Mochi Queen* by Debbi Michiko Florence
- *Magic Ramen: The Story of Momofuku Ando* by Andrea Wang
- *Rescue & Jessica: A Life-Changing Friendship* by Jessica Kensky & Patrick Downes
- *Seashells: More Than a Home* by Melissa Stewart
- *We Don't Eat Our Classmates* by Ryan T. Higgins
- *Wedgie & Gizmo* by Suzanne Selfors
- *The World is Not a Rectangle: A Portrait of Architect Zaha Hadid* by Jeanette Winter