MATH REVIEW WITHOUT DRILL SHEETS

Flash cards, drill sheets, and computer games are NOT bad. They are just expected. Use these, and endless more ideas, to show children math is real, practical, and fun.

Math in Everyday Activities

Cooking...Bring me 3 eggs; Measure 2 cups of flour using this ½ cup measuring cup; stir the brownies 50 times...

Building...Make 10 stacks of 5 nails; We need 10 feet of cord, cut into 12 inch pieces...

Exercising (counting reps)...if the track is ¼ of a mile, how far will we have walked if we walk 3 times? How many times must we go round to walk 3 miles? Let's do jumping jacks but count by 5s...

Folding clothes...How many washcloths plus hand towels; how many more towels than t-shirts?

Traveling...I'm thinking of a number between, higher/lower than, is even and has a 7 in the tens place; Start with 10, add 7, subtract 3, change the digit in the one's place to an 8; You count U-Hauls, I'll count Ryder; call out ever even number you see.

Math Games

Cards

Go Fish Say, "give me all your 3+2's" instead of 5's

Slap A Card One person is the dealer and names the "target," such as even number, red odd number, black number greater than 6... First to slap a card correctly gets the card. A player who slaps the wrong card loses all his cards. Player with the most cards, wins.

War Great for teaching greater than/less than

Number Tiles...Write the numerals 0-9 on 20 ceramic, cardboard, foam, wooden...any material, any size...squares. One set is for you; one for your child. Ask your child to "list" the tiles according to the directions you give. For example:

- List the number that shows how many eyes you and I have together.
- List the number that means ONE DOZEN.
- List the number that is between __ and __.
- List the number that is the SUM of 20 and 16

Make a list as you go with your tiles, out of your child's sight. When all the tiles have been used once, reveal your list and ask him to reveal his. Are they alike?

To reinforce concepts and listening skills, ask your child to tell why he listed each number. He should be able to say: "I listed 4 because you said, 'how many windows are in this room.'" Clues can be as complicated or simple as needed.

How creative are you? Add magnet tape to the back if your tiles and play this game on cookie sheets.

Board games...Almost all board games require counting spaces and/ or money!

Number Cards... Write the numerals 0-100 (or an age appropriate range) on a pack of index cards or scrap cardstock. Play endless games!

- Sort cards into odd and even
- Numbers you say when counting by 10
- Numbers with a 3 in the ones place
- Remove certain cards. Ask what is missing.
- Draw a card. Ask what is next, before, 7 more, 5 less...
- Draw 2 cards. What are the numbers in between?

Role Reversal...YOU be the student! Have your child make up problems for YOU. Have speed drill races. Winner makes the other's bed. Play school. You be the student. Make mistakes and have your child explain the correct answer.

Math Arts and Crafts

Dynamic Paper... Visit http://illuminations.nctm.org/ActivityDetail.aspx?ID=205 to create custom patterns for building 3-dimensional geometric shapes.

Shape Pictures... Draw pictures using straight lines and basic shapes. Look at art and photographs and identify the basic shapes of the elements. "Name all the objects shaped like rectangles. Which objects are circular?..."

Designs with Lines... Use a straight edge to draw 8-10 random, intersecting lines on a piece of paper. Color all the 3 sided shapes one color, 4 sided shapes another ...