



# Promoting Positive Math

In Your Child's School

**H**ere are a few ideas that might help you support a positive math environment in your child's school:

**1** Visit the school and see if the children:

- ⇒ Are actively engaged in math;
- ⇒ Are talking about mathematics;
- ⇒ Are working together to solve math problems;
- ⇒ Have their math work on display;
- ⇒ Use manipulatives (objects that children can touch and move) in the classroom.

**2** Explore the math program with your child's teacher, curriculum coordinator, or principal. Here are some questions you might ask:

- ⇒ Are there manipulatives in the classroom?

⇒ Are you familiar with the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics standards (available through your Resource & Referral Center)?

⇒ How are the standards being used in this school?

⇒ What can I do to help foster a strong math program where children can explore math concepts before giving the right answer?

**3** If you would like to help out, here are some suggestions for parent groups:

- ⇒ Make games for teachers;
- ⇒ Help seek out sponsors who believe in a strong math program for the school and who might provide materials and resources;
- ⇒ Support math classes for families at your school.

**4** Keep a positive attitude even if you don't like what you see. Work to improve the math curriculum by doing some of the things mentioned in this flyer.

**5** Share this information with your child's teacher.

A project of The Florida Partnership for Parent Involvement

Center of Excellence ♦ Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute ♦ Florida's Children's Forum  
Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters ♦ Hillsborough County Head Start ♦ Hillsborough County Even Start



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For more information contact:



**The Center for Parent Involvement** (FCPI) was funded by the U.S. Department of Education; Goals 2000, Educate America Act from 1994-1999. Guided by an advisory board of parents and professionals, the FCPI's goal was to tap the power of parents.

The FCPI gathered information on parent needs, coordinated the information, and created a series of resources organized by theme, including fact sheets for parents and professionals, "Beyond the Basics" resources, and resource identification lists. Many of the resources have been translated into Spanish language versions, and every effort has been made to preserve the meaning and flavor of the original English documents. This series of materials provides a wealth of current information for both parents and providers; the complete set of resources can be obtained in PDF format on the Department of Child and Family Studies Website at [www.fmhi.usf.edu/cfs/dares/fcpi](http://www.fmhi.usf.edu/cfs/dares/fcpi). The staff of the FCPI are hopeful that their work will continue to help children get ready to learn for many years to come.

The series' themes include:

- Family Empowerment
- Parent Involvement
- Parenting Support
- School Readiness
- Violence in the Lives of Children
- Transition to Kindergarten

The Center was one component of a project led by Hillsborough County Center of Excellence in collaboration with the Department of Child & Family Studies at USF's de la Parte Institute and the Florida Children's Forum. Other project partners include HIPPIY (Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters), Hillsborough County Head Start and Hillsborough County Even Start. For more information about these projects, call 813.974.4612.

Transition, Parent Tip: Promoting Positive Math

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