

# Mathematics

## A Sample of What Your Child Will Be Working on in 7th Grade

- Analyzing proportional relationships (e.g., by graphing in the coordinate plane), and distinguishing proportional relationships from other kinds of mathematical relationships (e.g., buying 10 times as many items will cost you 10 times as much, but taking 10 times as many aspirin will not lower your fever 10 times as much)
- Solving percent problems (e.g., tax, tips, and markups and markdowns)
- Solving word problems that have a combination of whole numbers, fractions, and decimals (e.g., a woman making \$25 per hour receives a 10% raise; she will make an additional  $\frac{1}{10}$  of his or her salary an hour, or \$2.50, for a new salary of \$27.50)
- Solving equations such as  $\frac{1}{2}(x - 3) = \frac{3}{4}$  quickly and accurately, and writing equations of this kind to solve word problems
- Solving problems involving scale drawings
- Using statistics to draw inferences and make comparisons (e.g., deciding which candidate is likely to win an election based on a survey)



### Talking to Your Child's Teacher

When you talk to the teacher, do not worry about covering everything. Instead, keep the conversation focused on the most important topics. In 7th grade, these include:

- Analyzing proportional relationships
- Arithmetic with positive and negative numbers
- Solving equations quickly and accurately, and writing equations to solve word problems

## Help Your Child Learn at Home

Try to create a quiet place for your child to study, and carve out time *every day* when your child can concentrate. You should also try to sit down with your child at least once a week for 15 to 30 minutes while he or she works on homework. This will keep you informed about what your child is working on, and it will help you be the first to know if your child needs help with specific topics. Additionally, here are some activities you can do with your child to support learning at home:

### English Language Arts & Literacy

- Visit a local art museum together. Take time to closely observe the details of the paintings or other art objects and talk about what you see there
- Ask your child who his or her favorite authors are. Why does your child like their books? What ideas does the author write about? Who are his or her favorite characters? Why? To find recommendations of books for your child to read, visit [www.corestandards.org/assets/Appendix\\_B.pdf](http://www.corestandards.org/assets/Appendix_B.pdf)

### Mathematics

Look for “word problems” in real life. Some 7th grade examples might include:

- Figuring the amount of a 15% tip or determining what percentage of weekly income goes to pay taxes
- For a long-term project, help your child choose a stock and follow its value on the stock market using the newspaper or the Internet. Have your child calculate the stock’s percent increase or decrease each month

For more information, the full standards are available at [www.corestandards.org](http://www.corestandards.org)