Things to do at home to increase math awareness

Supplies recommended for use at home

- Pencils and erasers
- Ruler
- Clock
- Measuring cups & spoons
- Coins
- Calculator
- Calendar

Activities to try at home

- Play "Guess my number" by thinking of a number and giving clues such as (it's, odd, it's greater than ____, it's less than ____, it has 2 digits, the digit in the one's place is higher than the ten's place, etc.)
- Count items to see if there is an odd or even amount.
- Play number games while driving (add license plate numbers).
- Learn one new fact each day addition, subtraction, or multiplication.
- Explore ways to cut sandwiches, pizza, cookies into equal parts (fractions).
- Start to solve problems which come up at home (how many cookies needed for a party, look for best deals on school supplies by looking at newspaper ads, how many servings from a meal, etc.)
- Use a calculator to check math homework.
- Get an allowance and keep track of spending and saving.
- Use a calendar to write and plan activities.
- Notice how much time it takes to do chores or watch tv.
- Tell time to the minute and be responsible for managing time with regard to homework, sports, tv, meal time, etc.
- Help measure when cooking.
- Use measuring cups in the bathtub (plastic only).
- Help prepare recipes (this helps with following directions in a sequence as well as fractions used in measuring).
- Measure stuffed animals (length & height) using non-standard items (toothpicks, blocks, coins) and standard measures (inches, cm).
- Divide up candy & cookies for family members so everyone has an equal amount (put in baggies and label with names).
- Estimate cost of groceries when shopping by rounding everything to the nearest 10 cents or dollar (57 cents would be thought of as 60 cents; \$1.82 would be thought of as \$2). Keep track mentally.
- Make simple purchases and count change.
- Watch the weather forecast to notice temperature (highs and lows).
- If going on a trip, follow along on a map to figure how many miles are being traveled, how many gallons of gas are being used, how much is spent on tolls, meals, motels.
- At the grocery store, estimate the weight of produce before weighing it on the store's scales. Try to figure an estimate of the cost based on the weight and the price per pound

