



Welcome to ***Bringing School Home***! The Simcoe County District School Board is launching this monthly e-bulletin to help parents support children on their journey of lifelong learning.

Parents and educators have the same goal: we all want our children and youth to be able to make their dreams come true. Through research and experience, we know positive connections between home and school help to boost student success. In each ***Bringing School Home*** e-bulletin you'll find practical tips and strategies to help your child achieve success in those important years of learning from Kindergarten to Grade 12.

Bringing School Home is available through the Simcoe County District School Board website (www.scdsb.on.ca). As well, parents, guardians and other interested members of our school communities may subscribe through our website and have the bulletin e-mailed directly to their e-mail accounts. (Readers may also unsubscribe at any time.) Please send your comments and feedback to: webadmin@scdsb.on.ca.

Questions of the month: numeracy and math

What do teachers mean when they talk about 'numeracy' skills?

The term 'numeracy' refers to:

- using mathematical words to describe ideas
- working with numbers in a variety of ways (estimating, calculating)
- developing skills in measuring, recognizing patterns, reasoning and problem solving

Here some ways you can promote numeracy skills with your child:

- Measure height, weight, time, ingredients, woodworking and craft components, items for repair, decorating materials, etc.
- Talk about your world using numbers and patterns.
- Use numbers to solve problems (e.g., setting the table, budgeting, making correct change).
- Explain how you arrived at your answer.
- Break big problems into a series of smaller problems.
- Try to find more than one way to solve a problem.
- Look for geometric shapes and patterns in your environment.

- Play number fact games for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.
- Estimate amounts so numbers end in zero or five.
- Round off numbers.
- Share ways that data is represented (newspaper, bank statements).

My child is afraid of math! How can I encourage a positive focus?

Everyone can learn mathematics. Here are a few ways that you can help your child or teenager keep a positive attitude when it comes to numbers:

- Praise and encourage your child or teenager when he or she uses numbers and mathematics in day-to-day activities.
- Demonstrate for your child ways that you use math in everyday life such as in calculating weekly allowances, shopping for groceries, developing household budgets, etc.
- Celebrate learning successes both big and small.
- Help your child understand that everyone makes mistakes and that mistakes provide opportunities to learn.

This month's featured web pages

We invite you to visit www.scdsb.on.ca often for news, facts, school information, Board highlights and hundreds of other pages about Simcoe County's public education system. This month we are featuring our Annual Report and 06-07 School Information web pages.

Please click [HERE](#) for our Annual Report and [HERE](#) for our 06-07 School Information document.

Our Internet surfing this month leads to the following page at the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit: ["You and Your Child"](#)

Next Issue

The next issue of *Bringing School Home* will feature 'Reading' and 'Promoting Internet Safety'.

Quote of the month

"There is only one thing that costs more than education today – the lack of it."

Anonymous

The Simcoe County District School Board is deeply committed to ensuring all learners have the opportunity to realize their dreams within a vibrant and successful public education system. We are very proud of our 57,000 students who are learning and achieving in our 108 schools and six adult learning centres throughout our urban and rural communities. Working with school communities, our dedicated and skilled staff members provide quality programs to help students develop lifelong learning skills in safe, caring environments. Our schools are located in the Huronia and Georgian Bay regions of south-central Ontario.

For more information visit our web site at www.scdsb.on.ca



Simcoe County
District School Board