

MATH = FUN!



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MathStart®

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HELP YOUR
KIDS BE BETTER
AT MATH



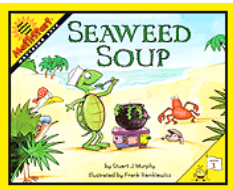
MATH = (SUMMER) FUN! / LEVEL 1, AGES 3 + / from OUR FREE E-NEWSLETTER



A House For Birdie (Understanding Capacity): *Poor little Birdie! He doesn't have a house to protect him from the wind and rain. So his buddies – Spike, Queenie, Goldie, and Fidget, who range in shape from tall, thin, and narrow to short, fat and wide—decide to help him find one. Capacity is an important concept in geometry. Illustrated by Edward Miller.*

* Imagine that you and your child are birds. Have your child describe his or her own shape and then draw a picture of a birdhouse that matches the shape. Choose other members of your family and friends and draw birdhouses that would fit their shapes.

* Take out a one-cup measuring cup and a few large bowls or containers. Ask your child to guess how many cups of water are needed to fill one of the containers. Have the child check the estimate by filling up the container, one cup at a time. Continue with the other containers. At the beach, use sand instead of water.



Seaweed Soup (Matching Sets): *Turtle is such a generous and good friend that none of his buddies can say no when he invites them to lunch for a bowl of that "thick and green, gooey and slimy" delicacy: seaweed soup. Will he have enough matching place settings for everybody? Understanding sets is an important step in counting and learning about patterns. Illustrated by Frank Remkiewicz.*

* Read the story together and ask your child what each of Turtle's friends will need for a place setting. Count the number of cups, spoons, napkins, and bowls on the table.

* Count the number of spoons, forks and knives in your kitchen drawer (only use *dull flatware knives* – nothing sharp!). Are there the same numbers of teaspoons and soup spoons? How many sets of 1 spoon, 1 knife, and 1 fork can you make? Now...set the table together for dinner!



The Best Bug Parade (Comparing Sizes): *In Ladybug's garden, everything is relative. Who's big? Bigger? Biggest? Long, longer, longest? Short, shorter, shortest? Line up! It's time for the best bug parade of all. Comparing sizes is a simple form of classification and is necessary for the development of measurement skills. Illustrated by Holly Keller.*

* Read the story together and ask your child to describe what is going on in each picture. "Do the bugs look the same or different?" and "How do they look different?"

* Draw and color some of your own imaginary bugs. Then cut them out and help your child arrange them in order of size. Line them up for your own best bug parade!