

## Strategies to assist in Math Computation

1. Discourage the student from calculating arithmetic problems in his/her head. Insist on the use of pencil and paper or a calculator.
2. If the student has not memorized the multiplication tables, a certain amount of time should be devoted to memorizing multiplication tables each day. Utilize a visual format such as flash cards or computer games.
3. When new math concepts are introduced, the student should be allowed to use a calculator so that he/she can pay attention to the lesson and not focus so much on the calculations.
4. Keep in mind that solving math problems is a demanding task for the student. Be sure to reward him/her for effort and successful performance.
5. Avoid placing the student in a competitive situation with math. Doing so will only increase frustration and lower self-esteem. However, chart progress so that the student can see his/her gains over time.
6. As much as possible, present math material in a visual manner by utilizing graphs, charts, money, number lines, etc.
7. Maintain a high interest in math by assigning problems that relate to the real world such as counting money, telling time, making measurements, etc.
8. Present problems, especially new and difficult ones, in frequent and brief assignments rather than the occasional but lengthy assignment.
9. Every opportunity for tutoring or individual assistance should be taken advantage of.
10. Practice multiplication facts by counting by 2, 3, 5, etc.
11. Set multiplication facts to music or introduce a rhythm that will facilitate memorization. Use tapes or CDs such as "Multiplication Rock", or check Public Broadcasting for appropriate TV programs.