

# Montana's New Math Standards

What Families and Community Members Need to Know

ONLINE RESOURCES



## Why Did We Update the Math Standards?

We updated the math standards to make them clearer, more useful, and better for students, families, and educators.

- **Based on New Research:** The standards now include the latest ideas on how students learn math best, with new ways to teach and learn math that connect to students' lives.
- **Keeping Up with Today's World:** The standards include skills students need, like understanding data, using technology, and exploring jobs in trades and careers.
- **Easier to Understand:** We removed unnecessary details so teachers, students, and families can understand and use the standards better.

## What's Different?

- Standards require examples from Montana's Indigenous Peoples and local communities.
- Standards focus more on problem-solving and thinking skills students will use in real life.
- Students can choose math courses that match their career goals instead of being required to follow a single path.
- Standards have increased emphasis on data and how to use it.
- The number of math standards have been reduced but still cover all the important skills.
- Concepts with limited use have been removed.

## How Families and Community Members Can Support:

- Offer to share your experience or cultural knowledge with teachers to help connect math lessons to real-world experiences.
- Look for ways to include math in everyday life, like measuring ingredients when cooking, budgeting, or exploring data in news stories.
- Help children explore careers by discussing their interests and how math connects to different jobs.
- Join family or community nights, open houses, or parent-teacher conferences to stay informed about your child's progress in math.
- If your child is struggling, talk to their teacher about ways to help, including tutoring or additional practice.
- Recognize students' effort and progress in math, no matter how small.