

## Lower School Mathematics Practice

Mathematical fluency, like reading fluency, does not develop in just one hour per day of class time. As with reading, true math fluency comes with repeated and varied exposure throughout the day. In order to help Lower School students at Lakehill become fluent mathematicians, Lakehill requires five to ten minutes of math practice per night, five nights per week, for students in grades 1-4 (at-home practice for kindergartners is recommended but not required).

The math practice requirement may be met in a variety of ways. Students may practice basic math facts with flashcards, worksheets, or computer software or websites. We are even more excited to hear about students practicing mental math with parents or siblings. Most students spend at least five minutes in the car driving to or from school; this is a great time to accomplish the daily goal. Students and parents are encouraged to be creative, so long as they focus primarily on the math skills assigned by their teacher for the week.

The following online or downloadable activities have been used by parents, students, and teachers to help meet the five to ten minute math requirement. Any of the following resources would be a great way for your child to use a computer or handheld electronic device to practice basic facts.

There are hundreds of games and apps out there, and we have no doubt that your family will discover its favorites. If you discover a resource you'd love to share, e-mail Mr. Trout at [jtrout@lakehillrpep.org](mailto:jtrout@lakehillrpep.org).

### Free online games and practice

- Oswego.org's Math Magician site is straight-forward and easy to use. Try [20 problems in 1 minute](#) or [100 problems in 5 minutes](#). Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication, and Division are available.
- [Funbrain](#)'s "Math Arcade" game is a popular site.
- [Arcademic Skill Builders](#) combines good old arcade fun with basic facts and math at multiple levels.
- [Saxon's online basic fact sheets](#) are used by Lower School students in the computer lab with Mrs. Pike and may be practiced at home as well.

### iPhone, iPad, and other handheld apps

- [ArithmeTick](#) is a free, simple, downloadable app for handheld devices. Addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division can be practiced, with difficulty settings from "Easy" to "Einstein."

### Downloadable games

- [Timez Attack](#) is an incredibly popular 3D-style video game that requires knowledge of multiplications facts to progress in the game.

### Available at or through the teacher store

- The [Flashmaster](#) is a handheld programmable basic fact tool, similar to a cross between a calculator and a Game Boy, which makes practicing addition, subtraction, multiplication, or division easy and fun. Many Lower School teachers have one or two in the classroom.
- Board games by the dozens, such as "Addition Bingo," make practicing basic facts fun.