

ACTON PIP (Parent Involvement Project)

Math and Science "Take Home" Kits

These kits have been developed by our Acton PIP volunteers to support the math and science initiatives and curriculum of our Acton Public Schools. They are meant to be multi-grade and age level activities, with a particular focus on concepts found in the Acton Public School 3rd and 4th grade curriculum. The kits are meant to involve the family as a whole in a fun, learning experience often involving shared reading and "hands on" activities. Most all materials needed are included, or may require simple objects found in the home. All kits are available for checkout through our public library. Many of the kit activities and directions have been translated into Korean, Portuguese, and Russian for greater community use. Many of the PIP kits are also available for student checkout through all of the Acton elementary school libraries.

We encourage you to view our kits, and take one home for you and your family to enjoy. Each kit contains a short evaluation form to complete to let us know how you and your family enjoyed the activity and any suggestions you may have.

Thank you for supporting your Acton PIP Coalition.

PIP Kit Descriptions

Shapes and Strength

In this kit, children will work to test the strength of an egg, and explore inventive ways in which to protect eggs during shipping, and uh oh, accidents! They will further explore the concept of strength by testing common products found in the home. For further enjoyment, a recipe for "play dough" (needed in one of the activities) is provided. To include a literature experience, a copy of Duckling Diary has been included for the whole family to enjoy reading.

Explore the Stars

The activities in this kit will help you to learn about stars through science and reading related activities. Learn interesting legends as told by the North American Indians, and then complete a series of activities. Children will even make their own constellation viewer!

Mole Patrol

Players tunnel their way to the top of the game board by rolling numbers that are divisible by certain divisors. Through this game, children will reinforce their skills in computation, geometry, divisibility, and factors and multiples.

Calc-U-Doodle

A game that combines Math and Art – practice your math skills and be creative while you draw! Players take turns rolling dice. Using the numbers rolled, they choose a mathematical operation to calculate a number 1 through 24 (*calculate*). Then they draw a feature listed on the game sheet that corresponds to the number (*doodle*). Now you're having fun while you Calc-u-doodle!

In A Million

The activities in this kit focus on concepts related to measurement and estimation. To start the concept off, children and their families will read, "One Grain of Rice". This beautifully illustrated book is a folktale based on the amazing power of "doubling", and helps children to become familiar with large numbers.

Ice Cream

... Do you like ice cream? Do you know how ice cream is made? In this take home project you will be learning about the process of a liquid changing to a solid and pretend that you are an "ice cream scientist". You and your parent\caregiver will do some fun science experiments and then make your own ice cream! Read "Curious George Goes To an Ice Cream Shop" to see what happens to George when he starts scooping. ...We All Scream For Ice Cream!!!

Tangrams

A Tangram consists of seven puzzle pieces that fit into a square. In this activity kit, have fun making pictures using all seven pieces while exploring math concepts such as Geometry and the study of shapes and patterns. Make your own Tangram puzzles and enjoy reading the math adventure, "Sir Cumference and the First Round Table".