

Quick Start Guide for Parents

Your roadmap to confident, stress-free math education at home. [Click for Academic Packet.](#)

Where to Start?

- ☐ **Select Grade Level** Click [COURSES](#) to select your topic/level:
 - [Grades 4-6th](#) includes Fractions, Decimals, Percent, and Basic Geometry
 - [Middle & High School](#) (MHS) includes pre-Algebra, Algebra 1, & Geometry
- ☐ **Course Format:** All lessons start with introducing a concept and completing the homework in the workbook; then moves into developing skills through activities, games, and puzzles; and finishes by expanding into practical applications. This cycle repeats every month for the year.
 - **Self-Paced** Full lesson plans for the entire year. [Start here](#) if your student prefers to move at their own pace on their own time schedule. Includes reviews for skill gaps.
 - **Live Classes** Interactive Zoom sessions for guided instruction, group practice, and Q&A. Great for students who learn best with accountability and real-time support. Check the [4-6th Schedules](#) for [MHS Schedules](#) for class times, zoom links, and handouts.

How much math each week?

- ☐ Grades 4-6th:
 - 1-2 short teacher lessons (< 30min each) every week
 - 4 homework assignments (15-20 min each) each week
 - 1 practical application lab (1 hour) every month
- ☐ Middle/High School (MHS):
 - 2-3 teacher lessons (30-60min each) every week
 - 4 homework assignments (20-30 min each) each week
 - 1 practical application lab each month (2 hrs)
 - 1-2 hands-on projects each month (2+ hrs)

How much do you want to be involved?

- ☐ **Hands-On Co-Explorer** – Both student and parent learn together, working through problems side-by-side, discussing strategies, and solving together.
- ☐ **Student Navigator** – Parent sets up the week's lesson plan and follows the daily assignment tracker, check student work for completion and correctness while student watches teacher lesson and completes most work independently.
- ☐ **Independent Learner** – Student chooses and follows assigned lessons, asks for help with assignments from teacher and parent when needed, completes problem sets, checks work with answer keys only after completed, fills in daily assignment tracker, calculates current grade throughout the year, and sets learning goals with weekly parent check-ins.

How to track progress?

Use the *Daily Assignment Tracker* every day and take quizzes and tests for evaluation.

- ☐ Mark lessons complete online after finishing
- ☐ Use quizzes and problem-solving challenges to check understanding
- ☐ Calculate your score and keep a running total in the tracker daily for up-to-date reporting

What About Supplies? *Tip: Keep a "Math Box" so everything's ready to go!*

- ☐ **Basic Math Tools:** pencils, erasers, [ruler](#) (both cm and inches), [protractor](#), [compass](#), [grid paper](#) (MHS only), [calculator](#), and a notebook or binder to keep things organized.
- ☐ **For Activities:** measuring tape (10-25'), a handful of various coins, at least two 6-sided dice, one standard deck of playing cards, rubber bands, scissors, tape, string, index cards, paper clips.
- ☐ **For STEM Labs:** Hands-on builds (MHS only): Click for [Algebra 1](#) and [Geometry](#) material lists

What If We Get Stuck?

- ☐ Ask [Aurora](#) & [Doug](#) for help anytime
- ☐ Post questions in [Google Classroom](#)
- ☐ Join the optional live [Study Hall](#) weekly math help sessions with a real teacher

New Parents! First Month Success Plan

- ☐ **Select a Math Topic:** Click [COURSES](#) to select a topic for your student.
 - Grades 4-6th: Fractions/Decimals/Percent (Not sure where to start? [Click for assessment](#))
 - Middle/High School: Take the [Placement Test](#), then select:
 - *Soft Approach* Middle School Math ([click for more info](#))
 - Algebra 1 (includes pre-Algebra)
 - Geometry (pre-requisite: Algebra 1)
 - Financial Literacy (pre-requisite: Fractions/Decimals/Percent)
- ☐ **Download Course Materials** Use the blue buttons to download your *Daily Assignment Sheet*, the *Teaching Schedule* (if participating in live classes), and the *Workbooks*.
- ☐ **Click to start a Math Lesson** with the teacher. After the lesson, students work on their math assignment (workbook pages, activities, games, or puzzles) located below the math lesson. Math lesson videos are always at the start of each week, with additional (and entirely optional) teacher lessons throughout the week, used as needed.



FAQ – Parents Ask...

What if my child struggles with math confidence? Start at a comfortable level (even if it's below their age/grade) to build mastery and confidence, then move up as they succeed.

How do I know what level to start with? Use our [placement guides](#) to find the right fit, and the two-page tests at the back of each workbook to find the right place. You can always move up or down anytime.

Will this work if I'm not strong in math? Yes! Every lesson is taught step-by-step on video, with answer keys, worked solutions, and extra help available in our small group private tutoring [Study Halls](#).

How do I keep my child from falling behind? The program is self-paced, so you can slow down or revisit topics as needed. Our built-in reviews and practice sets help catch and close gaps.

Can siblings share? Each can track their own progress in the system. If you have two students working through the same course, please [contact us](#) so we can help you set up your account correctly.

Are live classes recorded? Yes—posted the same day for review or if you miss the live session. Students that get the most out of our courses rewatch and take notes the second time, adjusting speed and using closed-captioning as needed. Expand the session for quick access for [Grades 4-6th](#) and [MHS courses](#).

What if my child is above/below grade? Switch levels anytime. [Contact us!](#)

How Do I Fit This into Everything Else?

- Integrate math into everyday life—shopping, cooking, building, travel planning. (Tip: The *Advanced Labs* do this for you from a science and engineering perspective!)
- Use the program as your “spine” or as enrichment for other studies. Use the practical application projects and lab builds to help you connect math with other subjects.
- It's okay to do fewer lessons but go deeper into each one.

What's the Best Way to Use This Program So My Kids Love It?

- Let them explore topics they're curious about. Pair skill practice with real-life challenges so they understand the “why” behind the math.
- Remember—math isn't just about the right answer. It's about learning to think logically, reason clearly, and solve problems creatively.
- Celebrate persistence, creative strategies, and problem-solving—not just perfect scores.

Still Not Sure What to Focus On?

Click here to learn [how this course works](#) so we can support you with your math goals for the year!

1. My child loves math and wants more challenge

- Try math competitions, logic puzzles, or advanced topics.
- Encourage them to solve problems in more than one way.
- Give them real-world challenges (design a budget, scale a recipe, plan a trip).

2. My child is bored with math

- Start with a puzzle or math game instead of a worksheet.
- Link lessons to their interests (sports stats, art symmetry, cooking measurements).
- Keep it short and engaging, then gradually increase difficulty.

3. My child feels anxious or overwhelmed

- Drop back 1–2 levels to rebuild confidence.
- Shorten lessons and end on a “win” each time.
- Focus on one concept at a time. If they are still stuck, pause and go to an entirely different area.
- Praise the effort, not the correct answers. Kids are developing a thinking process.
 - *“I notice you checked your work carefully instead of rushing—your focus really shows.”*
 - *“I notice you lined up all your numbers neatly—it made your calculation so much easier to follow.”*
 - *“I notice you took time to double-check—you caught your own mistake before I even looked.”*
 - *“I notice you explained your reasoning clearly—that helps me see exactly how you solved it.”*

4. My child struggles with foundational skills

- Focus on number sense and basic operations first.
- Use manipulatives, visuals, and real-world situations (counting back change, estimating totals).
- Practice short, daily exercises to build fluency. Remember: slow is smooth, and smooth is fast.

5. My child is below grade level

- Teach at their current skill level, *not* their age level.
- Use our self-paced videos and Study Hall sessions to encourage and support.
- Celebrate mastery *before* moving forward.

6. I want my child to work more independently

- Begin with short solo lessons (5–10 min).
- Give them a checklist to track progress and be clear on the expectations. (Less is more here!)
- Let them pick one real-life math project each month.
- Gradually add responsibility for planning their own study schedule. *You* must demonstrate this in small bite-size chunks. Project management is a life skill that isn’t easy for most people.

Now is the best time to get started! [Click here to start.](#)