

FAQs for Parents

Does That's Math cost anything?

Your child's teacher has enrolled all parents into the program. There is no charge to parents. However, since messages are sent via SMS text, carrier message and data rates may apply.

What is That's Math?

That's Math Bilingual Text Messaging K-5 is a "slow and steady" parent coaching program designed to be super stress-free. You get one text message each school day that helps you calmly talk about math with your child.

How does it work?

You'll get a notification (via email, newsletter or handout) that has the keyword and phone number you need to enroll.

You text that special keyword to the phone number and then voila you're enrolled! You'll get clear and simple text messages daily.

What do I do with the texts?

1. Read the text message.
2. Share it with your child.
3. Notice math around you.

And it takes less than one minute each day. Clear. Quick. Calm.

What do you mean "share it with your child"?

You can read it. You can think about it and say it later. You can think about it and say it in a day or week or month.

It's fully flexible and up to you. It just gives you something positive about math that you can say. In case you want to.

Can my child's grandmother get the texts?

Yes, any grownup involved in the education of a student in an enrolled class is welcome to sign up.

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Is it TEKS and STAAR test aligned?

Yes - but it might not feel like it. We've designed the messages to have maximal impact without feeling like homework or classwork.

How hard is it? Do I need pencil and paper?

That's Math does NOT use math questions and does NOT text math problems. Instead it's specific things you can say that impact both you and their child in math.

It might help if you read some examples:

- At the table say, "Each fork has 4 points on it. If we have 3 forks, that's 3 groups of 4 points. This is $4+4+4$ total points on the forks."
- Use small carrots. Say, "We can make a graph with carrots." Stack 5 carrots in a row, then 2, then 3. "Pictographs are part of math."
- Say, "Whole numbers are numbers like 1, 3, 16, or 45. There aren't any parts of the numbers like fractions or decimals."
- When coming inside say, "Deposit is a money word, it means 'put in.' When we walk in with dirty shoes, we deposit dirt – we bring it in."

What do other people say?

One parent wrote to us:

That's Math worked to help me personally consider how often I interact within the world of mathematics. The daily texts provided exceptional, relevant insights for my son and me to consider.

My son is just beginning to understand the intersections of math with all that surrounds us each day. That's Math helped bring many of those intersections to light as we were able to discuss all sorts of math related topics.

Another parent wrote:

That's Math has made math approachable... it shows that math is a part of our daily life. Math doesn't have to be a foreign subject.

How do my nieces and nephews get it in their school?

Tell their parents to give us a call (713-557-8048) or email (bon@thatismath.com). We'll help them get their school on board.

