

LETTER HOME

Patterns in Data

Dear Family Member:

In this unit, students will examine patterns in data that are represented on line plots, in rule machines, and that is organized on a coordinate grid. Students will travel to the Amazon rain forest as they read two stories about real-life situations involving data collection. In one story, they will hear about the family organization of armadillos and in the other, students will analyze the locations of the dens of Giant River Otters.

Students will also explore number patterns organized in tables and represented as rules. For example, if the rule is *double*, and the input is 7, the output is 14. Rule Machines help students develop problem solving strategies. Students then apply these strategies to analyzing growth patterns.

In the later part of this unit, students also analyze data that is collected and organized on a coordinate grid with the help of a figure called Mr. Origin. Students then use this map to locate and measure the distance between locations on the coordinate map.

As your child explores number patterns, help your child by:

Surveying Family Members. Invite your child to conduct a survey at home on topics such as the number of hours each family member spends watching television during one weekend or the number of letters in everyone's first name.

Drawing a Map. Draw a simple map of how your child travels from home to school and let your child follow it on the way to school.

Math Facts and Mental Math

Students' fluency with the subtraction facts related to the addition facts in all the groups will be assessed in this unit.

You can help your child review these facts using the flash cards the teacher sent home or by making a set of flash cards from index cards or scrap paper. Study the facts in small groups each night. As your child goes through the flash cards, put the cards in three stacks: Facts I Know Quickly, Facts I Can Figure Out, and Facts I Need to Learn.

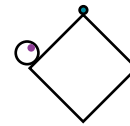
For Facts I Need to Learn, work on strategies for figuring them out.

For Facts I Can Figure Out, use the flash cards to practice the facts for fluency.

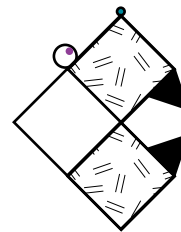
For Facts I Know Quickly, help your child use strategies to solve problems like these using mental math: $200 - 100$ (practices $20 - 10$), $900 - 400$ (practices $9 - 4$).

Thank you for taking the time to support our math activities at home.

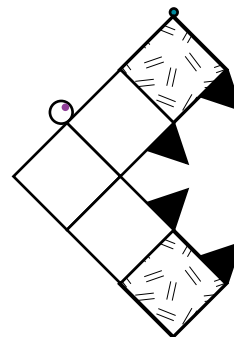
Sincerely,



one-year-old L-Gator



two-year-old L-Gator



three-year-old L-Gator