



## Questions and Encouraging Words

Below are some questions you can ask your child to explore math together and some words and phrases you can use to encourage effort and interest in learning.

### Questions

1. What do you notice about this problem (or picture)?
2. What do you wonder about this problem (or picture)?
3. Can you say more about what you are thinking?
4. That is interesting! Why did you use that strategy?
5. How did you get that answer?
6. Why is this important?
7. How do you know?
8. What do we know so far?
9. What do you think about this?
10. In your own words, what does this mean to you?
11. You made a lot of progress. How does that feel?

### Encouraging Words

- When your child says "I don't know" or "I can't do it."
  - o It is okay if you do not know! We can work together to find out.
  - o Please give it a try! It is okay to make mistakes.
- When you want to encourage your child and acknowledge his/her effort
  - o You are determined to figure it out. Keep at it and let me know how I can help.
  - o You did it all on your own!
  - o You really put a lot of effort into this. Show me more of what you did!
  - o You came up with a plan and followed through on it to get the job done.
  - o You never gave up and you believed in yourself!
  - o You admitted you didn't understand the work. That is not easy to do.
  - o This was your first time trying this and you kept an open mind.
  - o You gave it a try even though you weren't sure what to do.
  - o Even though you missed a few, you stayed calm and worked hard.
  - o You shared the troubles you're having and accepted feedback.
  - o You asked for help to figure it out and came up with a plan that works!
  - o You used your imagination and came up with a creative idea.
  - o When your first plan didn't work, you learned from that and came up with a new plan.
  - o You really handled that situation well because \_\_\_\_\_.
  - o I can tell you tried your best on this because \_\_\_\_\_.
  - o You never gave up, even when it was hard.