

Grade Five | Alberta Education and Childcare Numeracy Screener

Supplementary Parent / Legal Guardian Resource



Calgary Board
of Education

Your grade five child has been assessed on writing numbers, numbers on a number line, number facts, equations, calculations, rational numbers, and symbol knowledge. These activities can help your child practice numeracy skills at home. Keep practice short, playful, and positive.

	Skill	What to look for	What families can do	Visual Example
NUMBER KNOWLEDGE Understanding what numbers are and how they are represented.	Writing Numbers	Can your child accurately write whole numbers, fractions, and decimals when they hear them spoken? Can they use place value understanding to record large numbers and interpret fractions and decimals correctly?	Be a “Number Detective.” When you hear numbers in everyday life, ask your child to write them down and explain what they heard. This could be a city’s population, the distance between two places, a fraction in a recipe, or a score in a sport or video game. Encourage your child to explain how they know where each digit belongs and what the fraction or decimal represents.	
	Rational Numbers	Can your child connect fractions and decimals to the quantities they represent? Can they compare, order, and explain fractions and decimals using benchmarks and visual models?	Fraction Challenge: Remove the face cards from a deck of cards. Each player draws two cards to create a fraction. Compare the fractions and decide which is greater without using a calculator. For example: - Player 1: $\frac{3}{4}$ - Player 2: $\frac{5}{8}$ Encourage your child to explain how they know which fraction is larger. You can ask, <i>“Which fraction is closer to $\frac{1}{2}$? Which fraction is closer to 1? How do you know?”</i> Comparing and discussing fractions helps develop an understanding of the size and value of fractions and number relationships.	
	Symbol Knowledge	Can your child identify common mathematical symbols and explain what they mean? Can they connect mathematical words, symbols, and meanings?	Symbol Scavenger Hunt: Look for mathematical symbols in everyday life. Search for symbols in flyers, sports statistics, clocks, or measuring tools. Challenge your child to name the symbol and explain what it means. This includes variables, square roots, exponents, and mixed numbers. Some examples of symbols include: \$, >, =	

Note: Images were created with the support of AI.

Tip: You can also do these activities in the language your family uses at home.

	Skill	What to look for	What families can do	Visual Example
NUMBER RELATIONS Understanding how numbers connect, compare and relate.	Numbers on the Number Line Can your child estimate where whole numbers and fractions belong on a number line? Can they use benchmark numbers and fractions to determine whether their estimate is reasonable?	Can your child estimate where whole numbers and fractions belong on a number line? Can they use benchmark numbers and fractions to determine whether their estimate is reasonable?	When you encounter large numbers, ask your child which benchmark the number is closest to and how they know. Examples: A city population, a fundraiser total, the distance of a road trip. Questions might include: <i>"Is 6 800 closer to 5 000 or 10 000? Would this number be closer to 0, halfway, or the end of a scale?"</i> Thinking about which benchmark a number is closest to helps build number sense and estimation skills.	
	Equations Can your child use what they know about numbers and operations to determine whether an equation is balanced and true?	Can your child use what they know about numbers and operations to determine whether an equation is balanced and true?	Play True or False? Write an equation and ask your child whether it is true or false, and how they know. For example: $8 + 5 = 5 + 8$ or $7 \times 4 = 4 \times 7$. Ask: <i>"Is it true or false? How do you know? Can you explain without solving every part?"</i>	
NUMBER OPERATIONS Using numbers to compute, reason, and solve problems flexibly.	Number Facts Can your child solve multiplication and division facts accurately and efficiently? Can they use patterns and number relationships to solve unfamiliar facts?	Can your child solve multiplication and division facts accurately and efficiently? Can they use patterns and number relationships to solve unfamiliar facts?	Look for groups in everyday life. While setting the table, shopping, cooking, or playing sports, ask questions such as <i>"How many altogether?"</i> or <i>"How many groups?"</i> Encourage your child to use facts they already know to solve new situations. Example: <i>"If there are 6 muffins in each package and we have 4 packages; how many muffins do we have altogether?"</i> Talking about groups and equal sharing helps children build flexible and efficient multiplication and division strategies.	
	Calculations Can your child use place value understanding and flexible strategies to solve multi-digit calculations accurately? Can they explain how they used the numbers to find a solution?	Can your child use place value understanding and flexible strategies to solve multi-digit calculations accurately? Can they explain how they used the numbers to find a solution?	Strategy Showdown: Choose a calculation and challenge family members to solve it in different ways. For example, when solving $47 + 28$, one person might think $50 + 30 - 5$ while another might think $47 + 30 - 2$. Discussing different strategies helps children build flexibility with numbers and strengthen their understanding of place value.	

If Your Child Requires Additional Support

If the screening shows that your child requires additional support, the school will provide extra help with the skills your child is learning.

- ✓ Review screening results along with other information about your child's learning.
- ✓ Identify the skills that need additional support.
- ✓ Provide additional teaching and support based on your child's learning needs.
- ✓ Continue to monitor your child's learning and progress.
- ✓ Adjust supports as needed based on how your child responds.