



SHELTON BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Dr. Christopher Clouet
Superintendent of Schools

Tina Henckel
Assistant Director of STEM/Data Mgmt

Dear Students and Guardian(s),

With the end of the school year quickly upon us, we know that you are making plans for your student's summer vacations and activities. However, the break from school activities often causes students to experience a gap in learning prior to returning to school in the fall. Research shows that students can easily lose over 2 months' worth of math skills over the long summer break.

In our effort to defy that statistic, the Shelton Public School System has developed a Summer Math Challenge that can easily integrate into your summer plans, while being engaging and effective. Attached, you will find the outline for this year's program. The focus of the program is to reduce any summer math learning loss by providing a small daily dose of math practice every day. The program is designed to be developmentally appropriate for your student based on the grade level they will be entering for the 2018-2019 school year.

We recommend scheduling time for your student to participate in this program for 10 - 20 minutes a day, four times a week. This will help to:

- retain math skills learned during the school year
- strengthen their problem solving and critical thinking skills
- enrich their interest in math
- boost their confidence in math
- reduce math anxiety
- create future opportunities in an exciting career field

* All documentation for the Shelton Summer Math Challenge for students in grades K-12, can be found at http://www.sheltonpublicschools.org/summer_math_challenge

We hope that you will participate in this year's summer math challenge and help your student in improving their math skills and developing their confidence in math during the summer.

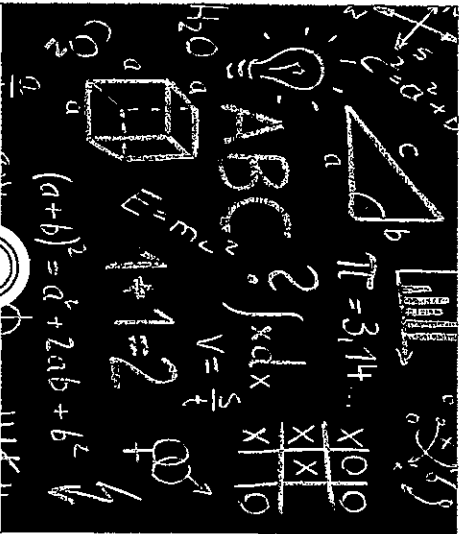
Sincerely,

Tina Henckel
Assistant Director of STEM/Data Mgmt

Student IXL Skill Log: (OPTIONAL log if you do not have a printer)

Name _____ **School** _____ **Grade** _____

Skill Name	Date	Minutes	SMART SCORE
Example: Skill L.3 Add and subtract fractions with like denominators	June 19		80
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			
13			
14			
15			
16			
17			
18			
19			
20			



Summer Math Challenge

Don't let your mathematical skills diminish over the summer! You have worked too hard during the school year and will benefit from a routine to help your skills stay sharp. We are challenging every student in Shelton to a Summer Math Challenge. This year's challenge includes your continued participation and work using the online math programs, Splash Math and IXL. Students transitioning to grades 1 through 11 already have an individual account, and have used one of these programs during the school year. The time frame to participate is limited. The enclosed brochure provides the details to participate, and earn a participation ticket to a district-wide drawing.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

1. Log into your IXL math account: <https://www.ixl.com/signin/sheltonps>
2. Continue working on Math skills where you left off at the end of the school year.

*Click on "See Recommended Skills" for suggested skills.

3. Complete a minimum of 20 skills by reaching a "Smart Score" of at least 80.
4. Complete the log **OR** print a "Skills Report" from IXL.
5. Submit item #4 to your math teacher by Friday of the first week of school.

*Math Logs can be printed online at:

http://www.sheltonpublicschools.org/summer_math_challenge

Download the IXL App on your iPad, Android, or Kindle


***A certificate of completion, prizes and events will be awarded to those students that participated!**

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

*Your login ID and password are the same as during the school year.

*Classroom teachers will NOT be printing individual student reports during the first week of school

*To Print your "Skills Report": - Click on Analytics; Click "Custom Date Range"; enter the dates June 25, 2018 to Friday August 24th, 2018; Print the report

*To locate specific IXL skills, click on the "See recommended skills!" link 

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FOUR WAYS TO ALLEVIATE SUMMER MATH LOSS

Highlight the math in every day activities. When shopping, help kids calculate change or discounts. When watching a baseball game, talk about what players' statistics mean. When cooking, try halving or doubling a recipe, and assist kids in figuring out the new proportions.

Read short math stories together. Studies have shown that reading math-focused stories to children, such as Bedtime Math books or the Family Math series, can help boost math scores in school.

Play math games. Games like Yahtzee, Racco, Blokus, Monopoly, and Set all rely on skills necessary for math, such as counting, categorizing, and building. Even playing with blocks and assembling jigsaw puzzles can help kids learn spatial skills and recognize patterns.

Find small ways to practice math at home. While worksheets alone won't solve summer math slump, small amounts of practice with basic formulas can help. Problem-of-the-day math calendars are a great way to practice basic math problems on a small scale. Practicing math for at least 10-20 minutes a day four times a week will help to maintain your student's math skills.

Tina Henckel

Assistant Director of STEM/Data Mgmt
Shelton Public Schools
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Shelton, CT 06484

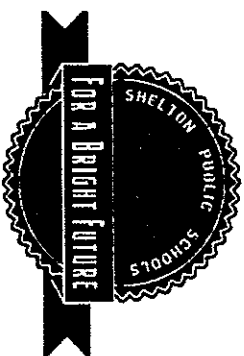
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IXL

Shelton's
Summer Math
Challenge



Shelton Public Schools
Office of Teaching and Learning
For Students Entering Grades 3-11