

# Why is it important for my child to master basic math facts?



1. Although correct answers can be obtained using the finger counting method, it takes too much time and effort away from higher level math concepts.
2. Mastery of single digit facts is necessary for estimation.
3. Students who are slow at math facts are less likely to learn more complex and higher level math problems.
4. Students must know multiplication facts quickly in order to master fractions.
5. Algebra is not open to those who have not mastered fractions.
6. Knowledge of simple facts is needed for proper use of calculators.

Created by:  
Elementary Curriculum Dept.  
Parkland School District

## Rocket Math



**A Math Fact Mastery  
Program  
Sponsored by  
Otter Creek Institute**

## What is Rocket Math?

- ◆ Rocket Math is a daily program that combines timed oral and written math fact practice for gradual mastery of small sets of facts. Addition and subtraction facts are up to  $9+9$  and  $18-9$ . Multiplication and division facts will include  $9 \times 9$  and  $81 \div 9$ .
- ◆ The program is designed to meet each student's individual needs and allows your child to advance at his/her own pace.
- ◆ Students chart their daily and weekly progress.
- ◆ Students remain motivated and engaged as they build on success.
- ◆ Your child's teacher will provide you with detailed information about how Rocket Math will work in their classroom.

## How can I help my child at home?

There are many things you and your child can do at home to reinforce Rocket Math..

- ◆ Flash cards– Have your child say the problem and the answer out loud. Start with a small set of facts that mix unknown with known facts. Limit practice sessions to 5 minutes at a time.
- ◆ Computer games– There are many websites which are great resources to practice basic facts. One site you can use is:



[sfsuccessnet.com](http://sfsuccessnet.com).

## What math facts will my child be learning?

The following chart details which facts your child will begin the program with and which facts your child will be progressing towards as the year advances.

Grade Level	Beginning	Ending
Kindergarten	n/a	n/a
First	addition	subtraction
Second	addition/ subtraction	multiplication
Third	addition/ subtraction/ multiplication	division
Fourth and Fifth	multiplication	division

