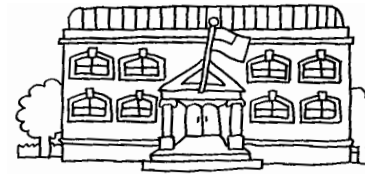


The following are suggestions for you to use during school open houses. Activities provide ways to show parents what their children are learning and how parents can take an active role in their children's education.



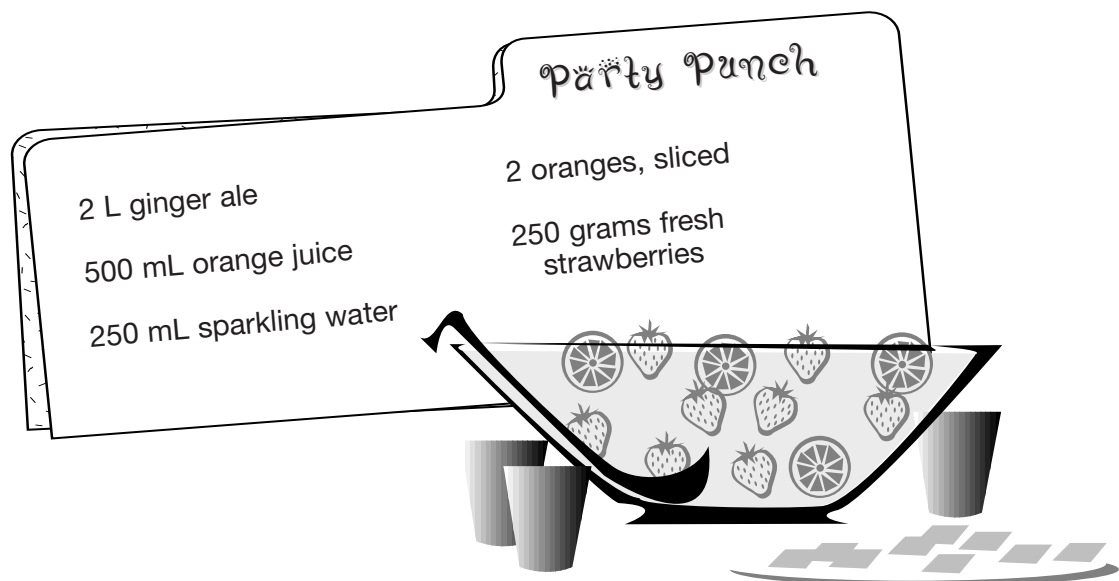
Open House

Suggestions for Preparing for Open House

- ◆ Keep students' portfolios on a nearby desk or table for parents to look through. Portfolios provide an excellent means of showing the progress that is being made in math.
- ◆ Place math manipulatives and tools at a math work center in the classroom so that parents can use them.
- ◆ Ask for student volunteers to help you on Open House night.

Math Refreshments

Have students help make refreshments to serve parents. A simple recipe such as the following may be copied and distributed so parents can see students' work with metric measurement.



Computer Use in the Classroom

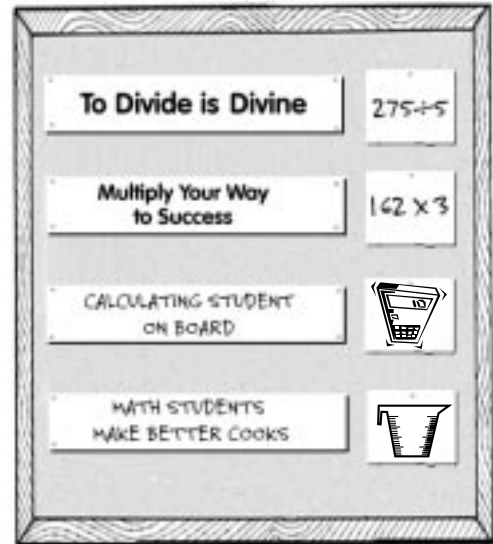
Ask student volunteers to demonstrate computer software, such as *DataWonder!*, and answer parents' questions.

Involving Parents

- ◆ Provide parents with a calendar of PTA meetings, dates, and locations. Ask parents if they have any questions regarding the role of the PTA in the community.
- ◆ If possible, copy a list or schedule of school functions, such as class plays, class trips, picnics, and activities. Prepare a sign-up sheet for parents who have special talents or skills to share.

Bulletin Board Suggestion

Create a bulletin board display of student work featuring Math Bumper Stickers. Slogans may be serious or humorous. Math concepts shown in the bumper stickers should be illustrated with appropriate math examples.



Teacher-Directed Activities

- ◆ Use the bulletin board display as a springboard to talk about some of the things children will be learning in math this year.
- ◆ Encourage parents to handle the ones, tens, and hundreds blocks. Demonstrate how to regroup when adding hundreds, tens, and ones.
- ◆ Provide parents with copies of 2-dimensional shapes. Have them draw lines to divide the shapes into equal parts. Parents can take home the handouts and have their children color the shapes to show fractional parts.
- ◆ Ask parents to write journal entries about the Open House. Invite students to display some of their own journal entries as examples. Place the parents' entries in their children's journals.

Information to Distribute to Parents

See the following articles in *Home and Community Connections* which are available to give to parents at Open House:

- ◆ Time Management Tips
- ◆ Helping with Homework
- ◆ Over the Break
- ◆ Preparing for Tests
- ◆ Summer Math
- ◆ Using Technology at Home