

## DOING MATHEMATICS AT HOME

These ideas will help you create a warm and nurturing environment for mathematical explorations for your family. You will see them repeated throughout the book in different ways.

Believe that your children can succeed and let them know it. Model persistence and not giving up. We teach by what we do. Our children emulate us.

Talk with your child and really listen to what they are saying. If you do not know an answer to a problem, ask your child questions about it. You will find questions to help you do this throughout the book.

Problem-solving processes are as critical as the answers. Knowing *how* to find an answer without giving up is a lifetime skill. Getting the correct answer to a problem is not as important as the behaviors surrounding it.

Practice being a keen observer with your children whenever possible. Notice patterns on fabrics, details in plants, clouds, trees, and tiles.

Encourage your child to exchange ideas with their peers. This becomes even more important as your child grows older.

Provide a special place for study. Let your child help determine where that place will be. Making choices is part of becoming a good problem solver.

Establish positive homework habits. A consistent schedule helps children know what is expected, and they can plan around it. There is a high correlation between success in math and the amount of homework done.

