



FAQ

What should I ask my student's teacher at conferences?

Overview

Conferences are a great opportunity to partner with your student's teacher, gain insight into your student's progress, interests, and mindset, and learn how to provide support at home. Time for conferences is often limited, so it can be helpful to come with questions in mind. Below are questions you may choose to ask to help you make the most out of your conference.

How does my student like to learn math?

Everyone learns differently, and your student likely prefers certain activities over others. Do they enjoy playing math games more than constructing models or drawing representations? Maybe they like discussing their ideas with classmates instead of writing out strategies on paper. When you know which tasks spark your student's interest, you can incorporate similar activities into your routine at home.

In what ways does my student collaborate with others?

Your student's mathematics program has built-in routines to help develop and refine collaboration skills, and asking this question at conferences can lead to insight into how your student shares their thinking with their peers. You can support your student at home by asking the types of questions they are likely to hear in class, such as, "How would you explain your strategy to others?" or "Is this a reasonable answer? Why or why not?" The Math Discourse Cards, available on the Family Center, provide great questions to prompt discussion.

What are some of my student's strengths? What math skills and/or strategies would be helpful for us to work on at home?

Your student's teacher can share strengths as well as growth areas for your student. Honing in on a specific skill or two can help focus your efforts and provide additional support. Your student's teacher may give you resources or direct you to the online Learning Games available in the bottom navigation bar on your student's dashboard.

How did my student do on the latest Diagnostic?

Your student will take the Diagnostic at certain points in the school year. When meeting with your student's teacher, you may want to pose certain questions to dig into the data. Here are a few you can ask:

- Based on this data, what are my student's strengths and areas for improvement?
- What are one or two academic goals you have in mind for my student?
- How can I support my student at home to reach these goals?