



Maths is important to a child's success – both at school and in everyday life. Parents can help their children learn and practise their Maths in many different ways.

The most important thing to do is: HAVE A POSITIVE ATTITUDE!!! Children whose parents show an interest and enthusiasm for Maths will be more likely to develop that enthusiasm themselves.

Make Maths fun and enjoy playing different games together. Encourage your children to make up new games and play them with you.

Here are some great websites to check out together:

<http://nzmaths.co.nz/families>

<http://www.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/math>

<http://www.woodlandsjunior.kent.sch.uk/math/timestable/>

<http://www.sparklebox.co.uk/md/numbers/activity>

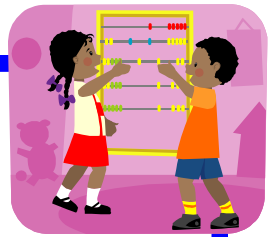
<http://www.owairaka.school.nz/curriculum/learning-links/>



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OWAIRAKA  
DISTRICT SCHOOL



# Science and Maths Evening

I can do it, you can do it,  
and together we can achieve our goals.



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[www.owairaka.school.nz](http://www.owairaka.school.nz)





# Science is Everywhere!

**Today's children are the scientists of tomorrow. Science learning begins at home and you are your child's most important teacher. By sharing science learning and understanding with your child, you can help them:**

- **feel the excitement of discovery**
- **build thinking and problem solving skills**
- **learn to answer their own questions**
- **develop their understanding of the world around them**

## Floating Eggs

Eggs sink in normal water, they are denser than tap water, so what can you do to make them float? Adding salt can give some surprising results

### What you'll need:

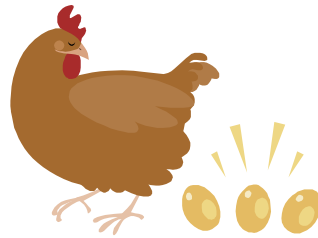
- One egg
- Water
- Salt
- A tall drinking glass

### Instructions:

1. Pour water into the glass until it is about half full.
2. Stir in lots of salt (about 6 tablespoons).
3. Carefully pour in plain water until the glass is nearly full (be careful to not disturb or mix the salty water with the plain water).
4. Gently lower the egg into the water and watch what happens.

### What's happening?

Salt water is denser than ordinary tap water, the denser the liquid the easier it is for an object to float in it. When you lower the egg into the liquid it drops through the normal tap water until it reaches the salty water, at this point the water is dense enough for the egg to float. If you were careful when you added the tap water to the salt water, they will not have mixed, enabling the egg to amazingly float in the middle of the glass!



## Design and Test a Parachute

Design and build a parachute that uses important science principles to carefully lower an object to the ground.

### What you'll need:

- A plastic bag or light material
- Scissors
- String
- A small object to act as the weight, a little action figure would be perfect

### Instructions:

1. Cut out a large square from your plastic bag or material.
2. Trim the edges so it looks like an octagon (an eight sided shape).
3. Cut a small hole near the edge of each side.
4. Attach 8 pieces of string of the same length to each of the holes.
5. Tie the pieces of string to the object you are using as a weight.
6. Use a chair or find a high spot to drop your parachute and test how well it worked, remember that you want it to drop as slow as possible.

### What's happening?

Hopefully your parachute will fall slowly to the ground, giving your weight a comfortable landing. When you release the parachute the weight pulls down on the strings and opens up a large surface area of material that uses air resistance to slow it down. The larger the surface area the more air resistance and the slower the parachute will drop. Cutting a small hole in the middle of the parachute will allow air to slowly pass through it rather than spilling out over one side, this should help the parachute fall straighter.



**Check out these websites for more amazing experiments to do at home:**

<http://www.sciencekids.co.nz>

[http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/scienceclips/index\\_flash.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/scienceclips/index_flash.shtml)

<http://www.crickweb.co.uk>

<http://www.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/revision/Science/>

**One of the best things you can do for your child's learning is to give them a healthy breakfast. This could include cereal, toast, fruit and a milo.**

