



# Three Reasons Why Children Need a High Quality Mathematics Education

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### 1. Mathematics is everywhere.

Children need to be able to understand and use the huge amounts of mathematical information that they see and hear on computers, and TV and see in magazines, newspapers and books.

### 2. A child in your care may have a disability or an exceptional gift in mathematics.

One of the responsibilities you have as a licensed or registered provider is to get to know each child in your care well enough so that you will be able to recognize when he or she needs something more or something different than what you are providing. Just as you could have a child in your care that has a developmental delay, a physical disability, a mental or attention disorder, or a learning disability in reading, there could be a child in your care who has dyscalculia, a learning disability related to numbers. or an exceptional gift in mathematics. You'll want to be able to recognize both conditions so that the child in either situation will get the appropriate intervention and support.

### 3. Its part of program and staff qualification requirements stated in the NYS Office of Children and Family Services Regulations for Family and Group Family Day Care Programs.

There are two places where the New York State Office of Children and Family Services Child Day Care Regulations for Family and Group Family Day Care indicate that mathematics be included in your licensed or registered family day care program. In Section 417\_.7 Program Requirements:

Each family day care home must provide a sufficient quantity and variety of materials and play equipment appropriate to the ages of the children and their developmental levels and interests, including children with developmental delays or disabilities, that promote the children's cognitive, *educational*, social, cultural, physical, emotional, language and recreational development. *emphasis added*.

and in Section 41\_.13 Staff Qualifications:

The provider, assistant and alternate assistant must each meet the following qualifications, (d) be capable of providing, and agree to provide, safe and suitable care to children which is supportive of their physical, *intellectual*, emotional and social well-being; *emphasis added*

Mathematics is part of a child's educational development and intellectual well being. Mathematics a pillar of formal schooling and it is a recognized part of a child's intellectual well being. The self – esteem of children who are not proficient or good at mathematics suffers. As a result time and attention must be spent on how the study



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of mathematics is reflected in the program of a licensed or registered child care program.