



Parents and Children - Math, Autonomy and Interest (PAC-MAN) Research Brief

Thank you to the 126 families who participated in the PAC-MAN project at the Telus World of Science Edmonton (TWOSE). Parents and children engaged in mathematical reasoning by playing a variety of math games and completed a survey about motivation and emotion levels during mathematics and parental support. Below are some initial results we found from the data.

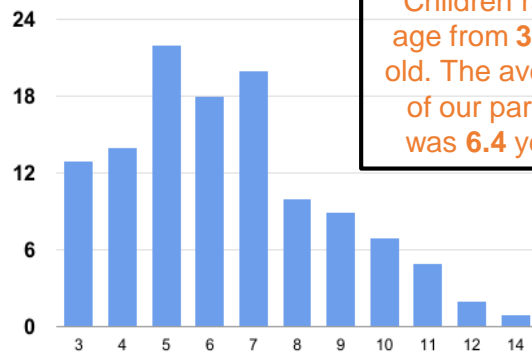
Any questions or comments can be directed to acme@ualberta.ca

Information about Participants



There were a total of **61 boys** and **57 girls**. Eight parents did not record a gender for their child.

Age of Participants



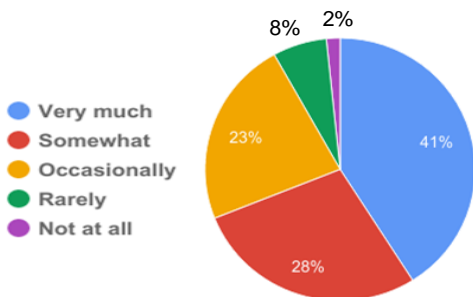
Children ranged in age from **3-14 years** old. The average age of our participants was **6.4 years** old.

Interestingly, parents of boys recorded a higher enjoyment of math for their child, than parents of girls.

Parents' Views on Math

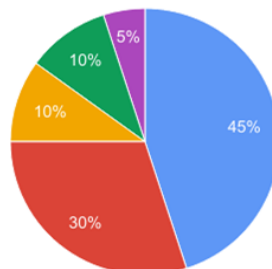


My Child Enjoys Math



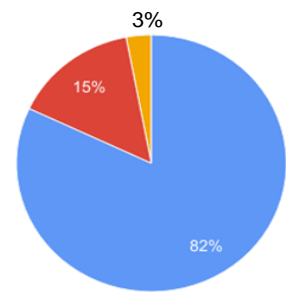
Most parents believed their child likes math to some degree.

I Enjoy Math



Parents regularly reported that they enjoyed math

How Important Is Math For My Child's Future?



Of 126 parents, 105 of them felt that math is very important.



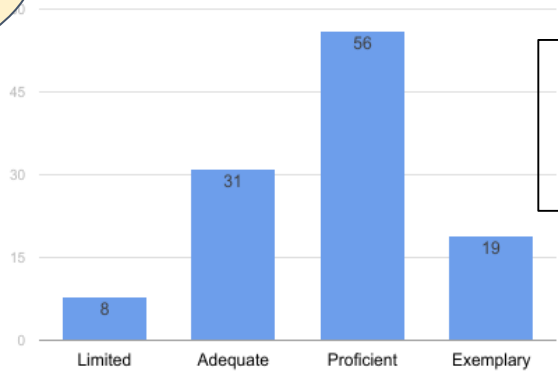


Parents reported on their child's achievement and their personal parenting styles.



CHILD'S LEVEL OF ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
(as reported by parents)

87% of parents reported their child's achievement in math when compared to other subjects to be **ABOUT THE SAME** or **HIGHER**.

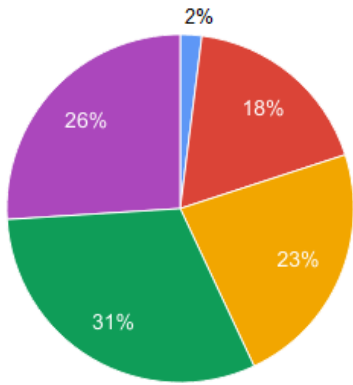


93% of parents think a person can get better at math.

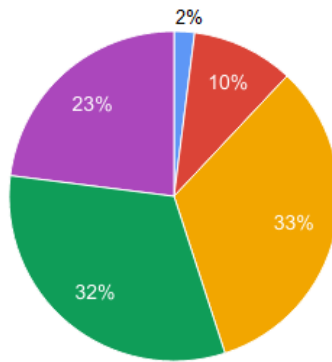


Parents' Views on Parenting

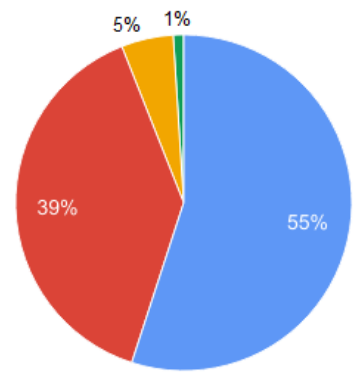
Is it difficult to discipline your child?



Do you scold or criticize your child?



Do you encourage your child to express their opinions?



Always Usually Sometimes Rarely Never

Most parents reported little difficulty in disciplining their children.

Fewer participants reported using scolding or critique to parent their children.

The vast majority of parents reported encouraging their children to express their opinions

For more information on a topic of interest, please contact:

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