Building M.A.T.H. Packs

Supporting Children's Math Explorations at Home

What is a M.A.T.H. Pack?

- A Math Activity Take Home Pack or M.A.T.H. Pack is a backpack that contains a book, an activity, and related materials that encourage families to explore math at home together before, during, and after reading a book.

M.A.T.H. Packs Include:

- Selected Children's Book
- Related "Discovering the Math: Book Guide"
- Related Activity
- Necessary Materials for the Activity

M.A.T.H. Packs Could Also Include:

- Flyers or resources from the School/Program
- Community Resources
- Materials that support family access and ability to engage in the activity.

Building M.A.T.H Packs:

To support M.A.T.H. Pack development think about:

- **Developmental/Age Appropriateness**
  - Are activities inclusive of different ages? Are suggestions provided to modify activities for different ages and learning styles?

- **Content**
  - Do activities support and build upon classroom learning and experiences? What classroom topics or learning areas can be highlighted?

- **Sharing System**
  - How will M.A.T.H. Packs be loaned and for how long? Is a checkout system necessary?

Things to Consider:

- Creating M.A.T.H. packs does not happen overnight. You may pilot one, get feedback from families, and then incoporate feedback as you develop new ones.

- How will you get families interested in checking out and using the packs?

- How will you promote the packs? Will you advertise them in a newsletter or flyer?

Starter M.A.T.H. Packs

Here is a curated selection of children's books that include low to no cost materials to get you started.
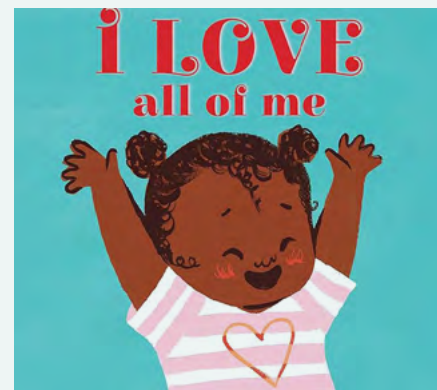
Pack 1: *Cook It!* by Georgie Birkett

- **Age Span:** *0 to 5 years*
- *Items to Include:*
  - *Book*
  - *Book Guide*
  - *Activity: Exploration in the Kitchen*
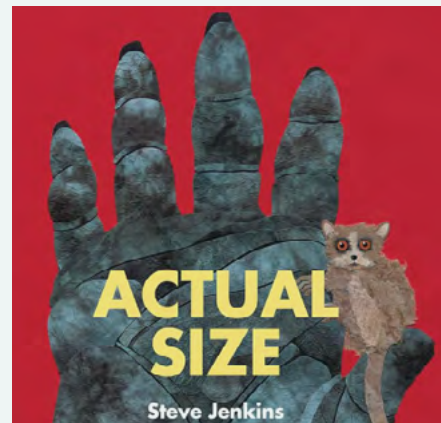 - *Materials:* Measuring spoons and cups

Pack 2: *I Love All of Me* by Georgie Birkett

- **Age Span:** *0 to 4 years*
- *Items to Include:*
  - *Book*
  - *Book Guide*
  - *Activity: Finish a Face*
  - *Materials:* Printed face templates and crayons

Pack 3: *Actual Size* by Steve Jenkins

- **Age Span:** *2 to 9 years*
- *Items to Include:*
  - *Book*
  - *Book Guide*
  - *Activity: Actual Size Kid and Actual Size Handprint*
  - *Materials:* Butcher paper, markers, crayons, measuring tape, and a toy car

Pack 4: *Bean Thirteen* by Matthew McElligott

- **Age Span:** *4 to 9 years*
- *Items to Include:*
  - *Book*
  - *Book Guide*
  - *Activity: Unlucky Bean Thirteen*
  - *Materials:* 13 counters