

Figure This!

Math Challenges for Families

Ideas for Teachers

Figure This! is a campaign designed to illustrate the excitement, energy, and problem-solving nature of middle school math—in real-world contexts. Written by teachers, *Figure This!* helps families see the high-quality mathematics their children should be learning.

Let the *Figure This!* math challenges, support materials, and Web site help you demonstrate the importance of mathematics for middle school students!

Ways to use *Figure This!*

Send *Figure This!* challenges home throughout the school year. Include a letter of introduction and send some challenges at the beginning of the school year, as part of your back-to-school packet, with report cards, and before professional development days, holidays, and summer breaks. Choose challenges that relate to the math you are currently teaching and send them home during the unit.

Distribute *Figure This!* challenges at parent-teacher nights and meetings. Include the welcome letter, some challenges, Tips for Families, Answers to Frequently Asked Questions, Math Web Resources, and the family support brochures.

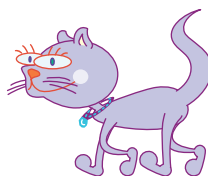
Lead a *Figure This!* presentation. Use the materials in this kit to develop and personalize your own *Figure This!* presentation for family nights, PTA meetings, or open houses. Include handouts such as Tips for Families, Answers to Frequently Asked Questions, Math Web Resources, and the family support brochures.



Display the *Figure This!* poster in areas most visited by parents. Exhibit the posters during high-profile school activities such as sports events, school plays, musical performances, or awards ceremonies. A copy of the poster is included in this family kit.

Encourage the school principal or PTA president to talk about *Figure This!* A complete PowerPoint presentation about the *Figure This!* campaign is included in this kit. If you're looking for something more low-key, then hand out *Figure This!* materials such as Tips for Families, Answers to Frequently Asked Questions, Math Web Resources, and the family support brochures at meetings for parents. These materials also can be duplicated and placed in prominent places in the school office or library.

Create projects around *Figure This!* challenges. Each *Figure This!* challenge includes additional challenges for more in-depth exploration. Students may enjoy conducting surveys or giving reports on how they use *Figure This!* materials in their homes.



Visit *Figure This!* on the Web at
www.figurethis.org

Modified from materials provided by  NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION