

# School-Home Letter

Dear Family,

Throughout the next few weeks, our math class will be learning about place value, number properties, and numerical expressions. We will also learn to multiply by 1- and 2-digit whole numbers.

You can expect to see homework that requires students to write and evaluate numerical expressions.

Here is a sample of how your child will be taught to evaluate an expression.

## Vocabulary

**evaluate** To find the value of a numerical or algebraic expression

**numerical expression** A mathematical phrase that has numbers and operation signs but does not have an equal sign

**order of operations** The process for evaluating expressions

### **MODEL** Evaluate Expressions

This is how we will be evaluating  $36 - (2 + 3) \times 4$ .

#### STEP 1

Perform the operations in parentheses.

$$36 - (2 + 3) \times 4$$

$$36 - 5 \times 4$$

#### STEP 2

Multiply.

$$36 - 20$$

#### STEP 3

Subtract.

$$16$$

$$36 - (2 + 3) \times 4 = 16$$

### Tips

#### Order of Operations

To evaluate an expression, first perform the operations in parentheses. Next, multiply and divide from left to right. Finally, add and subtract from left to right.

## Activity

You can write numerical expressions to describe situations around the house. For example, "We bought a case of 24 water bottles and have used 13 bottles. What expression shows how many are left?" can be represented by the expression  $24 - 13$ .