

2nd Grade Math: Using A.M. and P.M.

Understanding A.M. and P.M.

The terms **A.M.** and **P.M.** are used to differentiate between morning and afternoon/evening times on a 12-hour clock. Understanding when to use A.M. and P.M. helps us tell time correctly throughout the day.

Key Concepts

1. **A.M. (Ante Meridiem):**
 - A.M. stands for "Ante Meridiem," which is Latin for "before midday."
 - A.M. represents the time **from midnight (12:00 A.M.) to noon (12:00 P.M.)**.
 - Example: If you wake up at 7:00 in the morning, it's 7:00 A.M.
2. **P.M. (Post Meridiem):**
 - P.M. stands for "Post Meridiem," which is Latin for "after midday."
 - P.M. represents the time **from noon (12:00 P.M.) to midnight (12:00 A.M.)**.
 - Example: If you have dinner at 6:00 in the evening, it's 6:00 P.M.

Reading A.M. and P.M.

1. **Morning (A.M.) Times:**
 - Any time between 12:00 midnight and 11:59 in the morning is written as A.M.
 - Example: 10:00 A.M. is in the morning, before noon.
2. **Afternoon and Evening (P.M.) Times:**
 - Any time between 12:00 noon and 11:59 at night is written as P.M.
 - Example: 4:00 P.M. is in the afternoon.

Writing A.M. and P.M.

- **Writing A.M.:**
 - Always write "A.M." after the time to indicate it's in the morning.
 - Example: 8:30 A.M. means 8:30 in the morning.
- **Writing P.M.:**
 - Always write "P.M." after the time to indicate it's in the afternoon or evening.
 - Example: 2:15 P.M. means 2:15 in the afternoon.

Real-World Examples

1. **Waking Up:**
 - If you wake up at 6:00 in the morning, it's 6:00 A.M.
2. **Lunchtime:**
 - If you have lunch at 12:30 in the afternoon, it's 12:30 P.M.
3. **Bedtime:**
 - If you go to bed at 8:00 at night, it's 8:00 P.M.

Practice Activities

1. Sorting Times:

- Provide students with a list of activities (e.g., "eating breakfast," "watching TV at night"). Ask them to write down whether each activity happens during A.M. or P.M.
- Example: "Waking up at 7:00" (Answer: 7:00 A.M.).

2. Matching Clocks to A.M. or P.M.:

- Show students different times on both analog and digital clocks. Have them label each time as A.M. or P.M.
- Example: Show 3:00. Ask if it's 3:00 A.M. (early morning) or 3:00 P.M. (afternoon).

3. Daily Schedule:

- Ask students to write their daily schedule, including activities like waking up, lunchtime, school, dinner, and bedtime. Have them label each activity with the correct A.M. or P.M.
- Example: "School starts at 9:00 A.M. and ends at 3:00 P.M."

Example Problems

1. Problem 1: You go to the park at 4:00 in the afternoon. What time is it?

- **Solution:** 4:00 P.M.

2. Problem 2: You eat breakfast at 8:00. Is it A.M. or P.M.?

- **Solution:** 8:00 A.M.

3. Problem 3: You have a dentist appointment at 3:00, but it's after lunch. What time is it?

- **Solution:** 3:00 P.M.

Conclusion

Understanding A.M. and P.M. helps second graders organize their day and tell time correctly for different activities. By practicing with real-life examples, students will master the skill of distinguishing between morning and afternoon times!