Sample: Practical Math Worksheet

To make math practical, we linked math to one of my brother's favorite activities: eating lunch at school! We created a shopping catalog to have my brother tell us how much money we would need to prepare his favorite lunches.

We kept a range of items in the catalog to make my brother focus in on the relevant items from the worksheet. We also made him identify the quantity we specified to make sure he is reading it.

Though this exercise, we were able to explain why it was important he did math: so we knew how much money we would need to prepare his school lunch. This particular worksheet was focused on what we would need to buy to make enchiladas.

Now that got my brother interested in doing math, and he did it quick.

You can create similar worksheets for other items an individual likes—for example, you can start with a restaurant menu and create a worksheet to look up prices for the individual's favorite items and calculate how much money you need to order their favorite meal. Another example, you can create a catalog of clothes and create a worksheet to calculate how much money they need to purchase their favorite outfit.

This will make math practical, relevant, and interesting for them — like it is for my brother!

Price catalog Page 1

Nachos
$3

Tortillas
$2

Shredded cheese
$2

Enchiladas
$4

Taco Sauce
$2

Taco Sauce
$3

Price catalog Page 2

Sample exercise: What do I need to make enchiladas

1 can of enchilada sauce Quantity: _____ X Price : _____ = _____

2 packs of corn tortillas Quantity: _____ X Price : _____ = _____

1 pack of shredded cheese Quantity: _____ X Price : _____ = _____

1 can of refried beans Quantity: _____ X Price : _____ = _____