Expressions and Equations
Home Information Sheet
Second Level (b)

I can apply my knowledge of number facts to solve problems where an unknown value is represented by a symbol or letter.

MNU 2-15a

Having explored the need for rules for the order of operations in number calculations, I can apply them when solving simple problems.

MTH 2-03c

Over the next few weeks we are going to be learning to use expressions and equations to:

- Know that to solve an equation means finding the value of the required letter or symbol.
- Solve simple equations and inequations, e.g. a + 7 = 17, b − 9 > 10
- Explain how they solved an equation or inequation.
- Formulate simple equations and inequations that match the way they think about a problem.
- Apply their understanding of "balance" by adding, subtracting, multiplying or dividing similarly on both sides in a number sentence or equation.
- Be able to carry out calculations in the correct order by performing the operation(s) in brackets first.

Here are some ideas of how you can help me at home!

Brackets - Ask your child to write the numbers 2, 12, 6 and 3 in this order several times. He/she should write any signs they choose between the numbers (including brackets) and find as many different answers as he/she can, e.g.

$2 \times (12 \div 6) \times 3 = 12,$
$(2 \times 12) − (6 \times 3) = 6,$
$(2 + 12) \div (6 \div 3) = 7,$ etc.

1 to 20 - Ask your to make the numbers 1 to 20 using the digits 1, 2, 4 and 8 in any order with any signs (including brackets). All four numbers must be used in each calculation.

Here are some websites that you may find useful to use with me!

http://www.kidsnumbers.com/x-equals-algebra-game.php

www.**algebra**4children.com/printables.html