Standards for Mathematical Practice

As you discuss math with your son or daughter and/or help them with their homework tasks, you can help him or her develop skills with these Math Practice Standards by asking some of these questions.

1. **Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.**
	* What is happening in this problem? Tell me in your own words.
	* How will you go about solving this problem? What is your plan?
	* What will your answer be (Yes or No, a person’s name, a number, etc.)?
	* What do you think a reasonable answer would be?
2. **Reason abstractly and quantitatively.**
	* What do the numbers in the problem represent (7 is number of tables, 21 is the number of chairs, etc.)?
	* Can you write an expression to help you solve the problem?
	* Can you use a variable to represent what you are trying to find out in the problem?
3. **Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.**
	* How do you know that your answer is correct? Use pictures, numbers, and or words to justify it to me.
	* If I told you the answer was (offer a wrong answer) how would you explain to me that I am wrong?
4. **Model with mathematics.**
	* How can math help us solve this problem?
	* When did you use Math today?
	* What does the number in your solution represent?
5. **Use appropriate tools strategically.**
	* Which tool is most appropriate to use to solve this problem? (Numberlines, graphs, planning charts, etc. are all tools.)
	* Why did you use the tool you did? Did it help you to be more accurate or efficient?
	* If you didn’t have that tool available how would you have solved the problem?
6. **Attend to precision.**
	* Is your answer close to your estimate?
	* Could you do the problem a second time, in a different way, to make sure your answer is correct?
	* Are you using the correct units (square inches, dollars, etc.)?
7. **Look for and make use of structure.**
	* What do you already know about the mathematics needed to solve problems like this?
	* What other problems have you solved in the past that might help you solve this problem?
8. **Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning.**
	* What method might work every time you solve a problem like this?
	* Do you notice any patterns?
	* Could you make a rule or generalization about these types of problems?