MATH STRATEGY: Real-World Math

The Learning Benefits:

By connecting math to a relatable physical, social, or cultural context and/or an authentic purpose, students see how math is applicable to their daily lives. When students see relevance in the content they are studying, it increases their motivation.

Implementation Use Cases:

Virtually every story-based activity in Speak Agent explores a real-world context. Some stories explore aspirations, like a young man who wants to start a food truck business (above). Others cover topics such as careers, family history, sports, current events, hobbies, role-playing, adventures, shopping, and financial literacy—like how to measure a TV screen size (right) or use a bank account. All of these stories closely integrate with the classroom curriculum.

In addition, many activities in Speak Agent provide an authentic purpose by having students write or create works for their peers. For example, Math Puzzle Maker lets students make a problem for classmates to solve.

Distance Learning Tips

- Extend the Speak Agent stories using do-together activities that families can solve. For example: Have students measure their TVs to test Pythagoras' theorem.
- Use your class as a supportive audience for math writing to create an authentic purpose.

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