

Dear Parents,

NCA is known for our outstanding math program, and a significant part of our program involves students reviewing math over the summer. Numerous studies have shown that students can take a significant step backwards in their learning if they don't do any review over the summer. With this in mind, we are changing our summer math program to be more individualized and more fun for each student. Here is the plan:

Students will use Khan Academy, a program we used often during our remote learning time. Students will first take the "Course Challenge" for the grade they just completed. Then students will start doing practice problems to earn points and "mastery" for each skill area. Set a goal for your child to earn at least 500 mastery points a week. When we return in the fall, students will receive a math homework pass for every 2000 points they earn, up to a maximum of five homework passes. If your child masters their grade level and wants to advance to the next grade level, please encourage them to do so. I have attached a more detailed file to this email to help explain.

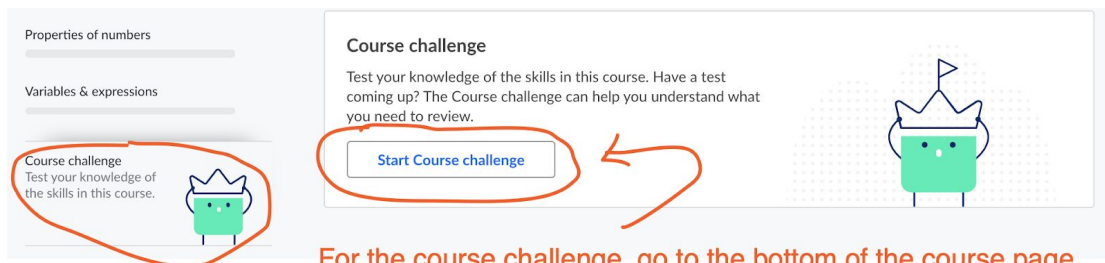
If you have any confusion, please contact me and I am happy to go through it step by step.

Thanks and God bless,
Ben Davison

Students:

Step 1: Take the [7th grade course challenge](#) (it will take you 30-45 minutes so plan accordingly)

If you got over 70%, [take it again](#) and [again](#) (this is a fast way to earn mastery points). You will get different questions each time. We wouldn't take it more than three times to begin with, but it really is up to you.

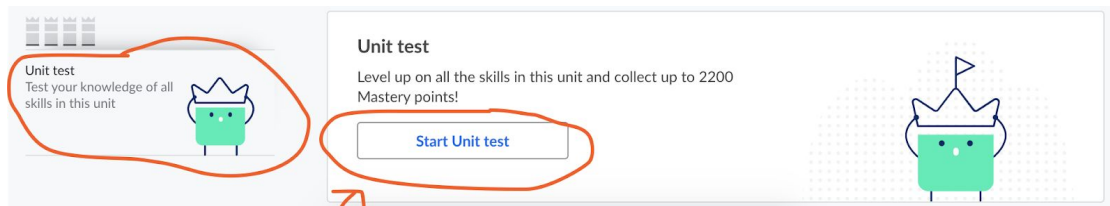


The image shows a screenshot of a Khan Academy course page. On the left, there is a sidebar with a list of topics: 'Properties of numbers', 'Variables & expressions', and 'Course challenge'. The 'Course challenge' item is circled in orange. The main content area on the right is titled 'Course challenge' and contains the text: 'Test your knowledge of the skills in this course. Have a test coming up? The Course challenge can help you understand what you need to review.' Below this text is a blue button labeled 'Start Course challenge', which is also circled in orange. A red arrow points from the 'Start Course challenge' button back to the 'Course challenge' item in the sidebar. To the right of the text is a green cartoon character wearing a crown. Below the screenshot, there is a red caption: 'For the course challenge, go to the bottom of the course page.'

This is a great way to earn points quickly for what you already know!

Step 2:

Start with the [first unit in the course](#) and try to get mastery. If you started by taking the course challenge as suggested in step 1, you'll likely already have earned some points. As best as you can, try to keep pace with the plan below. If you feel like you already know a good bit of a unit, [take a unit test](#) to earn points faster. Once you get a skill to "familiar" or "proficient", the only way to level it up to "mastered" is through a unit test or mastery challenge (you'll see mastery challenges showing up on the course page once per day at the top of the page).



For unit tests, go to the bottom of each unit page.

This is another great way to move faster through what you already know!

A note about mastery points

You earn *mastery points* by leveling up on skills (each exercise = 1 math skill). You can earn up to 100 points per skill.

Level up via Exercises:

A Course has Units; each Unit has Skills; and each Skill is worth a total of 100 mastery points. Further, mastery points for Skills are earned by a learner as follows:



- Not Started = 0 points
- Attempted = 0 points
- Familiar = 50 points
- Proficient = 80 points
- Mastered = 100 points

The more questions you get correct in an exercise, the more your skill *levels up* - and the more mastery points you earn:

Get *many* questions correct (70%-99%) - earn "Familiar" level = **50** points

Get *all* questions correct (100%) - earn "Proficient" level = **80** points

Once you are "Proficient", take a Mastery Challenge or Unit Test and get questions about that skill correct to earn "Mastered" level = **100** points

Level Up Faster from Mixed-Skill Assessments:

Unit Tests, Course Challenges, and Mastery Challenges throughout the course test you on *multiple* skills at once. Answering questions right on those skills will level you up faster!