



## About This Product

The complete MathTacular 4 set consists of a 2 hour and 45 minute(ish) long DVD, a full color Student Workbook and Tool Kit, and a full color Answer Key. Similar to other MathTacular products, this DVD features Justin (this time as Detective Justin Time) and Amber (Amber Waves) teaching kids some simple and repetitive steps to crack the "code" of word problem.

## New DVD Format!

Unlike other DVDs in the MathTacular series (which consist of vignettes in which Justin is doing a short activity or encounters a small situation in life that he can use to teach kids a particular mathematical skill), **MT4 has a complete story line.** Amber Waves appears in Detective Justin Time's office one day, declaring that her "poor, petunia-pickin' prize pig, Polly Esther, has been porknapped!" ...and she'd like his help to find her. It appears that the dreaded Word Puzzler has captured her and left a series of word problems through which Detective Time and Amber Waves will have to work in order to earn clues to the whereabouts of Polly Esther. As our two heroes progress through the case, the word problems get trickier, but luckily, our heroes get smarter (or maybe just more confident?). Will Detective Time and Amber Waves solve all of the problems in the end? Will they ever learn the whereabouts of Polly Esther? Guess you'll have to watch to find out.

## Workbook and Answer Key—Moms don't have to be Word Problem Masters to use them successfully

The MathTacular 4 Student Workbook & Tool Kit not only features every problem solved in the DVD\*, but an additional 5 practice problems on each topic to give kids an opportunity to hone the skills we just taught in the DVD. Since there is only one problem on each page, children will have plenty of room to work out the solution right in their books.

The end of the Workbook sports a Tool Kit - everything a kid might need to solve those pesky word problems. There is a list of Clue Words (words used in word problems that help you know which mathematical operation you'll need to do), Simple Steps to Solve Word Problems (the same steps we use on the DVD, outlined on paper for easy reference), a page that teaches how to perform Unit Conversions in the Metric System, as well as other handy formulas and unit equivalencies (like 1 foot = 12 inches and "if you know inches, multiply by 25.4 to find millimeters").

The MathTacular 4 Answer Key should be every parent's dream. Not only does it provide the answer, but it clearly **shows all the steps it took us to get to the answer.** So when kids are completely stumped, they can look in the answer key to get an idea of how to get started, or to simply gain a better understanding of the process we used. However, "just as there are many ways to stuff a taco," we recognize that not everyone will arrive at the answer to a word problem in the same way. Therefore, our Answer Key sometimes includes a box that shows an "Alternate Way to Solve" a particular question. We encourage parents to allow their kids to solve these word problems in the way that it makes the most sense to them - even if it isn't how we solved it in "the book". (The Answer Key also shows all of the steps to the way we solved the sample problems on the DVD, so parents can look at a sheet of paper to review rather than always having to refer to the DVD itself.)

\*Of course, we've designed the DVD to be helpful too: If parents select a particular chapter from the Scene Selection menu, the DVD will stop after we've read the sample problem on the DVD to give kids an opportunity to try to solve it on their own. Once kids have tried their best, they can select Continue and we'll work through the problem with them on the DVD. At the end of the scene, Justin encourages the kids to try the following similar problems in their workbook, and

then the DVD takes them back to the Scene Selection menu. For those who simply want to watch the DVD like a movie, there is a "Play All" selection on the Main Menu page that will play each scene continuously without stopping.

### Check out the Wiki to:

- Read the MathTacular 4 Student Workbook Introduction.
- Read the MathTacular 4 Answer Key Introduction.
- See the Back Cover Copy for each book.
- See Pre-release PDF Samples of both books - FOR STAFF USE ONLY.

### Suggested Use

- DVD: recommended for grades 4 and up.
- Workbook (and Answer Key): recommended for grades 6 and up.

From the Workbook and Answer Key Introductions...

A Wide Range of Skills: Since we believe that anyone can learn to conquer word problems, we have designed this program to cover a very wide scope of mathematical skills. While there's a good chance that younger students haven't yet studied, say, fractions or ratios in their math curriculum, they will probably still enjoy watching our heroes work through the word problems to find the clues that lead them to Polly Esther, and they may absorb some of the mathematical concepts they'll experience along the way. If you'd like to take it a step further, you can read through the solutions to the tougher problems in the Answer Key, and then see if your children can work out the problem independently. Keep in mind that if you still have many more years of math study in your future, you'll be able to use this program again and again. You'll be able to introduce more of the extra problems in this workbook as your children learn to master new topics in their math curriculum. Whether MathTacular 4 is one of your fun Friday activities or you simply revisit it periodically as you learn new skills in your own math curriculum, we hope this program will become one of your favorite learning tools for years to come.

### Skills Covered in MathTacular 4

Simple Addition  
Simple Subtraction  
Addition/Subtraction Two-Step Problems  
Simple Multiplication  
Simple Division  
Multiplication/Division Two-Step Problems  
Quotient and Remainder  
Fractions  
Perimeter  
Fraction Two-Step Problems  
Perimeter/Area Two-Step Problems  
Volume  
Multi-Step Problems  
Advanced Fractions: Products

Advanced Fractions: Multi-Step Problems  
Ratios  
Percentages  
Averages  
Rates  
Algebra  
Speed  
Advanced Fractions: Division  
Algebra Challenges  
Fraction Challenges  
Ratio Challenges  
Percentage Challenges  
Speed Challenges