



MOTIV8 MATH TOOLKIT

Welcome to the NILD Motiv8 Math Toolkit. This Toolkit is a carefully curated collection of hands-on materials designed to support intentional, mediated math instruction within the NILD Math Block. The Toolkit was developed with the understanding that students build durable mathematical understanding when concepts are experienced concretely, represented visually, and connected to abstract thinking. Purposefully grounded in NILD’s instructional philosophy, the Motiv8 Math Toolkit supports active engagement, cognitive development, and flexible thinking, allowing therapists and educators to mediate math concepts responsively and strategically.

Instructional Purpose

The Math Toolkit is designed to strengthen Math I foundational skills while promoting reasoning, language development, and strategic problem solving. The tools are flexible and adaptable, allowing for repeated use across session/lessons, domains, and all math levels while supporting movement within the Concrete–Representational–Abstract (CRA) framework.

Math I Learning Domains

The materials in this kit support instruction across the 8 primary Math I domains. Together, these 8 domains provide a comprehensive foundation for mathematical understanding and real-world application.

- Number Fluency
- Measurement & Conversions
- Time
- Money
- Operations & Equations
- Fractions, Decimals & Percents
- Patterns & Progressions
- Problem Solving

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What's Included

Please refer to the Product List document for a complete inventory of materials and components. Each item has been intentionally selected to maximize instructional flexibility and cross-domain use.

You will also find a document with Motiv8tion Moments for each Math I domain. These are intended to inspire thoughtful planning and encourage therapists to build on their own professional judgment and student responsiveness. They are not meant to be exhaustive Math Block plans, but rather curated examples designed to:

- Provide instructional entry points
- Highlight the versatility of the materials
- Spark ideas for mediation and adaptation



A Note on Using Real Money

In alignment with NILD's emphasis on authentic, meaningful learning experiences, the Motiv8 Math Toolkit includes paper bills only. Coins are intentionally not included. U.S. coins exist in many variations across years, designs, sizes, and markings. For students to develop true understanding of money concepts, they need opportunities to hold, feel, compare, and examine real coins, noticing differences while recognizing consistent value. This tactile and visual discrimination supports accurate identification, flexible thinking, and generalization.

To complete your kit, we recommend gathering the following real coins, ideally with a variety of designs:

- Quarters: \$5 (20 coins)
- Dimes: \$2-\$3 (20-30 coins)
- Nickels: \$1-\$2 (20-40 coins)
- Pennies: \$1 (100 coins)

These quantities provide sufficient variety for comparison, sorting, counting, trading, and problem-solving experiences.

The NILD Motiv8 Math Toolkit was created to support purposeful mediation, encourage productive struggle, and help students build confident, connected mathematical understanding. We are excited for you to explore the materials, adapt them to your students' needs, and make them your own within the NILD Math Block.