Gryffin had tried Cub Scouts and soccer, and while he enjoyed these activities there was never a thrill in his eye or jump in his step. That all changed this year when Gryffin joined the Kittitas Valley Math Circle, a community of 2nd-6th-grade students who gather once a week to celebrate the joys of problem-solving.

This Math Circle is unique in providing family members for students like Gryffin an opportunity to engage in their students’ problem-solving experience. As students tackled the posed problem of the day, their family worked equally as hard next door in an adult only session that includes the opportunity to discuss educational issues, explore mathematics, and answer questions while sharing ideas. After a thorough exploration, adults were provided additional problems that they could work on at home with their student.

Through this program, the Kittitas Valley Math Circle has been successful at building adults’ confidence in engaging with their students in continuing reasoning and problem-solving beyond the Math Circle. We’ve seen grandparents and older siblings join the effort and all leave feeling more prepared to support students like Gryffin. This talk will present the resources we’ve developed and share ideas for how to start your own program. (Received September 26, 2017)