



Helping your child learn Maths at home



The Early Years Foundation Stage - Mathematics

Number: Children at the expected level of development will:

- Have a deep understanding of number to 10, including the composition of each number;
- Subitise (recognise quantities without counting) up to 5;
- Automatically recall (without reference to rhymes, counting or other aids) number bonds up to 5 (including subtraction facts) and some number bonds to 10, including double facts.

Numerical Patterns: Children at the expected level of development will;

- Verbally count beyond 20, recognising the pattern of the counting system;
- Compare quantities up to 10 in different contexts, recognising when one quantity is greater than, less than or the same as the other quantity;
- Explore and represent patterns within numbers up to 10, including evens and odds, double facts and how quantities can be distributed equally.

Developing a strong grounding in number is essential so that all children develop the necessary building blocks to excel mathematically. Children should be able to count confidently, develop a deep understanding of the numbers to 10, the relationships between them and the patterns between those numbers.

The following link is an excellent guide to the teaching of early number sense in the Reception year. It is only 12 mins long and worth watching if possible.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Ow8vEmh81A>

Helping to develop Early Number Sense at home



In the street

- Recognising bus numbers.
- Number plate hunt. Who can find a 4, 6? Add the numbers using known number facts.
- Comparing door numbers.
- Counting – how many lampposts on the way to school? How many steps from one point to another? Do Mum or Dad need to take the same number of

steps? Do they take more or fewer?

- Prepositions - behind the post box, in front of the house, next to school.
- Use ordinal numbers (1st, 2nd, 3rd) as well as cardinal (1, 2, 3) e.g. What colour is the third car you see?

Doing the washing

- Counting in 2s – matching shoes/ socks.
- Sorting by colour and size.
- Find four shoes that are different sizes. Can you put them in order?



Time



- What day is it today, tomorrow, yesterday?
- When are family birthdays?
- Use timers, phones and clocks to measure short periods of time.
- Count down 10/20 seconds to get to the table/into bed etc.
- Recognising numbers on the clock. If you cover a number, what number is missing?

Food



- Can you cut your toast in half? Can you cut it into triangles/other shapes?
- Setting the table. Count the right number of plates etc. How many more do we need? If someone is not home, do we need the same number? Do we need more or fewer? How many fewer?
- Can you make patterns out of the knives and forks? Can you put them in the right place in the drawers? Subitise how many?
- Helping with the cooking by measuring and counting ingredients. Use the language of weighing and capacity e.g. heavier, lighter, full, and empty.
- Setting the timer.
- Positional language at dinner time: What is on the rice, where are the carrots etc?

Going shopping

- Reading price tags.
- Counting items into the basket.
- Finding and counting coins. Getting change.
- Comparing weights and sizes.



Number formation

- Model number writing: lists, tracing, birthday cards, recipes.
- Write in sand, with your finger on the carpet, paint, make numbers with playdough, on a whiteboard, on paper, post it notes, on a tablet.



Measuring

- Are you taller than a ...?
- Marking height on the wall.
- Cut hand or feet shapes out of paper. How many hands long is the sofa? How long is the table? Which is longer?
- Who has the biggest hands in our family?

Shapes

- Cut a potato into shapes (circles, triangle etc). Use with paint to make pictures and patterns.
- Cut out shapes from coloured paper/newspaper and arrange into pictures.
- Shape hunt: Can you find a square in your house (windows etc), a circle ...
- 3D shapes: a tin is a cylinder, dice are cubes, an ice-cream cone is a cone! What shape is a Lego brick?
- How many faces on a die? What 2D shape are they?
- Use mathematical language when talking about shapes. Flat 2D shapes (circles, triangles, squares, rectangles and hexagons) have sides and corners. Solid and hollow 3D shapes (cubes, cuboids, pyramids, cylinders and spheres) have edges, corners and faces.



Playdough

Here's a simple recipe:

1 cup of plain flour

1 cup of water

1 tablespoon cooking oil

4 teaspoons cream of tartar

Half a cup of salt

Food colouring and essences (optional)

Put all ingredients in a large saucepan, and heat slowly, stirring all the time until it forms a ball. Keep it wrapped in clingfilm or in a covered tub to stop it drying out.



Then

- Make numerals and 3D shapes.
- Sort shapes into groups, or order by size.
- Make long and short snakes. Can you make a straight snake? Can you make a curved snake?

Games

- Ordering numbers with playing cards.
- Jigsaws.
- Dominoes - talk about the double numbers made when there are the same number of dots on each side.
- Card games – snap, pairs.
- Snakes and Ladders or other simple dice games - counting on from the space landed upon.
- Adding numbers on two dice or on a domino. Find all the dominoes with numbers that add to 6, 10 etc.
- Bingo, with numbers or shapes.
- Target games - keeping score.



Maths games websites:

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/>

<http://www.mathsphere.co.uk/resources/MathsSphereSampleWorksheets.htm> - Printable maths worksheets, free resources, fun and games

<https://www.busythings.co.uk/>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/games> - The games cover the whole curriculum and are tablet friendly

<http://www.crickweb.co.uk/> - Activities focusing on Maths and Literacy. Free to use.

<https://www.pinterest.co.uk/> - While Pinterest isn't a learning website as such, it is nonetheless a wonderful treasure trove of resources if you would like an activity for your child that isn't screen based. Type 'eyfs' or 'for kids' after your search. For example: 'number to 10 for kids' or 'shape patterns for kids'.

<https://www.youtubekids.com/> - You can search for a wide range of videos on number bonds, shapes, counting, Numberblocks etc.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zks4kmn?fbclid=IwAR357cwmtmUmaOnHhRVPR5Az4k5OvKP6lrsYs9ZoYAadD5nfcOLzz0GHbCI> – BBC Bitesize has a lot of links to activities, games and videos for maths and other areas of the curriculum.

http://www.familylearning.org.uk/online_math_games.html