

Mathematics



Help your child with early Mathematics

Activities to support their understanding of Number

- Practise counting using 1:1 correspondence (touching each object as they count)
- · Count objects into a jar
- Counting during their play e.g. how many teddies are coming to tea?
- Using a paint brush and water practise writing numbers outside
- Write numbers into natural materials (sand, rice or talc)
- Play games (skittles, bean bag throw, dominoes) and record the score
- Look for numbers in the environment (food packets, number plates, front doors)
- Use mathematical vocabulary and questions (how many?)
- Give instructions using ordinal numbers (first, second, third)



Activities to support their understanding of addition and subtraction

- Look at different ways of holding up 5 fingers
- Find opportunities to add or subtract numbers when at home e.g. I have three plates and I need one more. How many will I have?
- Arrange different objects onto two plates
- Talk about pairs when matching socks
- Look out for things that come in twos, threes, fours (chair and table legs), fives or tens.
- Involve your child in the supermarket shopping
- Share out biscuits between friends. "We've got 5 biscuits and 2 children. How
 many will each person have? What could we do with the biscuit left over?"

- Looking for 2D shapes (circle, triangle, square, rectangle, pentagon, hexagon) and
 3D shapes (sphere, cube, cuboid, cone, cylinder) in the environment.
- Use shape vocabulary to describe objects at home, e.g. I can see a shape that has one curved side and two circles at each end. What shape can I see? (a cylinder)
- · Look at different packaging to identify the shapes.
- Play 'I-Spy' using shape vocabulary, e.g. "I spy with my little eye something that is the shape of a triangle".
- Use language of comparison (full, empty, tallest, shortest, longest)
- Collect different objects and order them by size.



Activities to support their understanding of Time

- Do some baking at home and carefully follow the recipe instructions.
- Use the words 'yesterday', 'today' and 'tomorrow' to talk about things your child has
 done and what they will be doing.
- Tell your child, when they go to bed, what day tomorrow will be and whether it is a school day or not.
- Set your child time 'targets', e.g. can you get undressed before the bath is run? Put your boots on before I count to 10?
- Boil an egg using an egg timer. Can your child watch the egg timer and tell them when the egg is ready.