



Help your child to learn at home.

Maths

At Home

Maths at mealtimes:

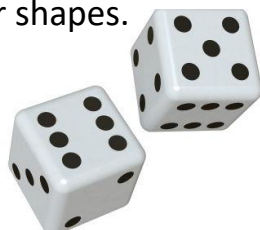
- Can you cut your toast into 2 or 4 pieces? Can you cut it into triangles or rectangles?
- Set the table. Count the right number of plates etc. How many more do we need?
- Help with cooking by measuring and counting ingredients.
- Set the timer.
- Use positional language at dinner time e.g. put the sausages on top of the mash.
- Compare quantities e.g. who has most carrots?

Washing:

- Sort by colour and size.
- Pair socks.
- Find clothes / shoes that are different sizes and put them in order.

Games:

- Jigsaws (you can make your own by cutting up a magazine picture).
- Snap (matching pairs) or Happy Families (collect 4 of a kind)
- Snakes and ladders or other simple dice
- games.
- Adding numbers on two dice or two playing cards.
- Bingo with numbers or shapes.
- Hopscotch.
- Dominoes



Talk about time:

- What day is it? Talk about yesterday, today, tomorrow.
- Use timers, phones and clocks to measure short periods of time.
- Count down 10/ 20 seconds to get to the table / into bed etc.
- Recognise numbers on the clock. Cover a number - which number is missing?

Read Stories:

Read stories that involve counting, shapes and measures.



Sing number rhymes and songs:

Five Currant Buns
Five Little Speckled Frogs
Five Little Ducks
Five Fat Peas
Five Little Men in a Flying Saucer
Five Fat Sausages
Ten in a Bed
Ten Green Bottles
Monkeys on the Bed
Round and Round the Garden

Out and About

Shopping:

- Read price tags.
- Count items into the basket.
- Find and count coins.
- Compare weights and sizes – which is heavier, lighter, bigger, smaller.

In the street:

- Recognise bus numbers.
- Number plate hunt. Who can find a 7?
- Talk about door numbers.
- Count – The number of steps from the gate to the front door. How many lampposts you walk past.
- Look for shapes.



At the park or in the woods:

- Collect and count natural objects.
- Count actions e.g. number of jumps, swings.
- Compare the size of found objects e.g. length of sticks, size of pine cones.
- Time activities - How far can you run in 10 seconds? How many conkers can you find in 1 minute?
- Make shapes with natural objects.



The Early Years Curriculum

Not all children develop at the same rate but by the end of nursery most children will...

Number

- Develop fast recognition of up to 3 objects, without having to count them individually ('subitising').
- Recite numbers past 5. Say one number for each item in order: 1,2,3,4,5.
- Know that the last number reached when counting a small set of objects tells you how many there are in total ('cardinal principle').
- Show 'finger numbers' up to 5.
- Link numerals and amounts: for example, showing the right number of objects to match the numeral, up to 5.
- Experiment with their own symbols and marks as well as numerals.
- Solve real world mathematical problems with numbers up to 5.
- Compare quantities using language: 'more than', 'fewer than'.

Space, Shape and Measures

- Talk about and explore 2D and 3D shapes (for example, circles, rectangles, triangles and cuboids) using informal and mathematical language: 'sides', 'corners'; 'straight', 'flat', 'round'.
- Understand position through words alone – for example, "The bag is under the table," – with no pointing. Describe a familiar route. Discuss routes and locations, using words like 'in front of' and 'behind'.
- Make comparisons between objects relating to size, length, weight and capacity.
- Select shapes appropriately: flat surfaces for building, a triangular prism for a roof, etc.
- Combine shapes to make new ones – an arch, a bigger triangle, etc.
- Talk about and identify the patterns around them. For example: stripes on clothes, designs on rugs and wallpaper.
- Use informal language like 'pointy', 'spotty', 'blobs', etc.
- Extend and create ABAB patterns – stick, leaf, stick, leaf.
- Notice and correct an error in a repeating pattern. Begin to describe a sequence of events, real or fictional, using words such as 'first', 'then...'