

Helping your child learn at home in Mathematics



In the street

- Looking at bus numbers
 - Matching objects - cars/doors
 - Shapes around - pavement, windows, doors, wheels
 - Find a number 3
 - Comparing door numbers
- Counting - lampposts, red cars
 - Talk about big and small
 - Can you bring me 3 leaves?
 - Collect objects - leaves, pebbles, twigs - Who has more?
 - Talk about distance - near, far - count steps or jumps, race to next lamppost. Who was the fastest?

Doing the washing

- Sorting by colour and size.
- Counting/Matching/pairing up socks.
- Find four items that are different sizes.
- Can you put them in order?



- Count 5 items into the machine
- Finding the number on the dial
- Making piles - biggest, smallest, most, least



Time

- What day is it today, tomorrow?
- What day was it yesterday?
- Use timers, phones and clocks to measure short periods of time.
- Count down 5/10 seconds to get to the table/ into bed etc.
- Recognising numbers on the clock.
- Make your own sand timer - plastic bottle put sand in make a hole in lid see how many claps jumps can be done before the bottle empties.



Measuring

- Are you taller than a ...?
- Marking height on the wall.
- Cut hand shapes out of paper. How many hands long is the couch? How long is the table? Which is longer?
- Who has the biggest hands in our family?
- How many steps from the gate to the front door?
- Ordering teddies/dolls/toys smallest to biggest
- Filling and emptying bottles, cups, jugs in the bath



Going shopping

- Reading price tags
- Counting items into the basket
- Finding and counting coins
- Comparing weights - which is heavier
- Comparing and ordering sizes
- Look for shapes



Food!

- Can you cut your toast into 4 pieces? Can you cut it into triangles?
- Setting the table.
Counting the right number of plates etc. How many more do we need? One straw in each glass
- Count how many fish fingers, one less after eating one - How many now?
- Can you cutlery in the right place in the drawers?
- Helping with the cooking by measuring and counting ingredients.
- Putting one cake case in each section of the baking tray. How many more do we need?
- Setting the timer.
- Collect plastic trays from fruit/veg and egg boxes for sorting beads buttons

Then make.....

Playdough

Here's a simple recipe:

1 cup of plain flour

1 cup of water

1 tablespoon cooking oil

2 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 Use your dough to:

- Make numerals and shapes
- Sort shapes into groups, or order by size - count them
- Make long and short; thick and thin wiggly snakes.
- Adding small groups/simple taking away
- Use words like big, bigger, biggest, small, smaller, smallest, more, less, most, least,

Shapes

- Use objects found around the home to learn about shapes. Recycling items like boxes and bottles can be used to make anything - robots, instruments talk about the sides and edges - round, straight, flat, curved, points, corners
- 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 ...cubes, cylinders, cuboids can be found in the kitchen cupboards 😊

Games

- Putting cards into piles
- 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.
- Bingo, with numbers or shapes
- Dominoes
- Building with bricks and towers
- Scoring games - make skittles with empty bottles/ throwing beanbags into targets

Number rhymes and songs:

Eg:

5 little monkeys jumping on the bed

One, two, three, four, five. Once I caught a fish alive.

This little piggy went to market

Two little dicky birds

Five little speckled frogs

Five currant buns in a baker's shop

Ten Fat sausages

Five little ducks went swimming one day

One two buckle my shoe

Ten green bottles

There were ten in the bed

One potato two potato

Books to read:

Hungry caterpillar - sequence

Goldilocks - counting and size

Rosie's Walk and Where's Spot - language of position

Ten Little rubber ducks - order - first, second

One Mole digging a hole - counting

Useful Websites:

http://www.nurseryrhymes4u.com/NURSERY_RHYMES/COUNTING.html

Internet maths games:

www.mathszone.co.uk

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks1/maths/>

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

www.sesamestreet.org