



Ready for Maths



Making maths fun is important, also real life often provides the best opportunities to develop maths skills.

Talk together

Talking about numbers is a great way of building confidence, try to talk about how you are using maths all the time, for example measuring ingredients for recipes, 2 spoonfuls or 50g of sugar. Talk about how much things cost, paying and getting change while shopping.



Count together

Counting real objects helps children picture maths in their heads, eg count buttons coins or shoes. Help your child to touch each object as they count it. Count together and see how far you can get, go for a walk and count footsteps. Set the table together, “How many forks do we need?” Work out maths problems together, how many pieces do we need to cut this apple into so we can all have a piece? Enjoy maths and solve problems together, how many small cups will fill up this big jug?

Sing together

Sing songs and rhymes, like 10 in a bed or 10 green bottles or anything with numbers in! There are lots of ideas online if your memory needs refreshing.

Play together

Board games are great for counting on, turn taking and recognising patterns on dice and numerals.

Play games when you are out and about, like seeing how many numbers you can spot on doors and car registration plates. Look out for numbers on phones



and TV remote controls.

Write numbers in lots of different ways in the sand or with sticks. Write numbers for them to copy and encourage them to have a go at writing numbers on their own. Keeping a score of goals while playing football or recording how many cars or lorries go past is a good way to start recording numbers.

Understanding shapes

Look out for shapes in the environment, in doors, windows and buildings. Ask your child to describe shapes to you, how many sides or corners. Make shape people with recycled boxes and cut out shapes to make pictures



Measuring

Measure together in metres or centimetres, using different rulers and tape measures. Order items by height and length and use the vocabulary of longest, tallest, shortest. Choose some items from the cupboards and compare how heavy they are. Put them in order of weight.

