

## Supporting your child with Maths

Everyday situations provide excellent opportunities for children to see that maths is important, meaningful, and achievable. As a family, you can easily incorporate maths into daily life, helping your child develop a positive attitude towards the subject. Whether it's during breakfast on a Monday morning, teatime on a Wednesday, or while at the park on a Saturday, here are some fun and simple ways to engage with math at home

Numbers and shapes in the environment	What number do we live at? What number bus shall we catch? How many sheep are there? How many chocolate chips does the cookie have? Counting steps as you go up and down the stairs. Asking what shapes they can spot on a nature walk. Completing maths with sticks and other natural resources.
Cooking	How many plates do we need for the table? Can you put 5 spoons of flour into the bowl? Can we cut the banana into 3 pieces? Can it be equal pieces?
Money	Let your child handle coins and see what numbers they can see. Let them look for prices, pay for items and collect the change.
Measures	Fill up different sized containers and get children to pour from one to the other. Ask them to estimate "how many of this bottle will fill up one of these bowls?" Ask which different containers may have more or less in.
Number	Singing lots of number songs will help your child remember the order of numbers -Once I caught a fish alive -10 green bottles -Five little ducks -Ten in the bed -5 little speckled frogs -This old man

Playing maths games is a great way to support your child as it develops positive attitudes, mental maths strategies and problem-solving skills.

### Counting

Lots of counting is great for children. Make sure they

- Touch each item once and match that touch to a number.
- Know that the final number they say is the total
- Say the numbers in the correct order each time



### Recognising numbers

Gather together a small number of objects: toy cars, pasta shapes, pebbles etc. Count them out so you know how many there are. Ask your child to shut their eyes. Hide a small number (1-5) under a bowl or cup. Reveal the objects and see if your child can say how many there is without counting them. They can then check by counting.

### Subitising

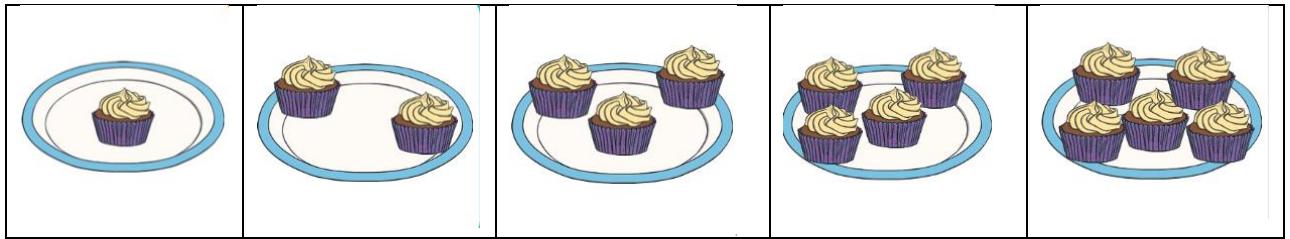
Subitising is when you can recognise a number of objects without actually counting them. Dominoes and board games that involve a dice are great for helping to develop this skill as they start to recognise the layout of spots. Other games such as 'close the box' also help with number composition to 12.



### Matching pairs

Print off the cards, turn them face down on a table. Take it in turns to find two pictures that show the same number. You could also add your own pictures, or the children could draw their own representations.

1	2	3	4	5



Board games also offer the opportunity for a range of different mathematical opportunities whilst also having fun. Be this working with money in Monopoly, recognising numbers in Uno or subitising and counting in Snakes and Ladders.

#### Useful links

National Numeracy, a nationwide charity set up to help improve everyone's numeracy skills and it has a great Family toolkit. It contains lots of great ideas for things to do to help your children.

[Free Family Maths Toolkit | Resources for Schools, Parents & Carers](#)

NRich is another great website full of top tips, investigations and games to challenge parents and children alike

[Parents | NRICH](#)

Number blocks is a preschool BBC television programme aimed at introducing children to early number. Loveable characters and engaging storylines help children to begin their mathematical understanding

[Numberblocks Games, Activities and Learning Resources - CBeebies](#)

TopMarks has a range of mathematics games that children can play in a variety of fun ways.

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/Search.aspx?Subject=16>

Times Table Rock Stars is a fun and engaging way of helping children practise and learn their times tables

<https://ttrockstars.com/>

BBC Bitesize have a range of activities and videos for children of all primary ages

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/primary>

Numbots, made by the same company as Times Table Rock Stars, has activities and stages that improve children's subitising, addition and subtraction skills, whilst getting the resources to create their own robots.

<https://numbots.com/>