



## Maths and Numeracy

### Fun activities for a Foundation Phase Child



Make activities positive, light hearted and fun.

If you can make learning an active game your child will be more likely to enjoy it and importantly want to repeat it. Let your child take the lead and engage them by adapting games with things that interest them wherever possible.

- Find numbers around the home.
- **Look at sizes when you are buying shoes and clothes**
- Allow children to use scales in supermarkets
- **Compare sizes of things you will buy**
- Counting out the number of items you buy
- **Counting out your money at the counter**
- Counting going up the stairs or along the corridor to bed
- **Counting laying cups and plates for their teddies or for the family**
- Counting while tidying toys or other things to away
- **Counting out loud while getting dressed**
- Counting while taking shopping out of bags
- **Use number rhymes such as, "Ten Fat Sausages" and "1-2-3-4-5. Once I caught a fish alive..." etc.**
- Search your home for as many groups of three as possible...3 socks, 3 toys, 3 cups etc.
- **Suggest that your child puts his/her toys into families of 2, 3, 4, etc.**
- Suggest that they make towers of 2, 3, 4...with building bricks...help to count back as they take the towers down
- **Use maths words such as: long, short, tall, smaller than, light, square, heavy, bigger than, first, second, third, how many more/less?....**
- Discuss numbers on an analogue clock
- **Discuss numbers on machines which use a digital display**
- Discuss the numbers on houses in the street (a useful way of introducing even and odd numbers)
- **(If you play the lottery) which numbers shall we choose? Let's see which numbers come out? Can you guess what the next number will be? Were you right? How far away were you?**

- Encourage your child to play jigsaws - an excellent method to develop motor skills as well as tessellation
- **Talk about size - which is the biggest cake? etc.**
- Extend use of mathematical words, e.g. circle, square, bigger than, more than, under, over, months of the year, days of the week, morning, afternoon, day, night, etc.
- **Notice patterns and make their own, e.g. with coloured beads on a string**
- Count, sort, match and compare everyday objects
- **Enjoy counting games and stories**
- Play card games, Ludo, Snakes and Ladders etc.
- **"The answer is 10 (or any number), what is the question?"**