

Supporting your child's learning in Mathematics

Reception



Parental involvement and support are important for children to gain the most from school. Most of the activities that will help your child when he or she goes to school involve talking. The most valuable mathematical activities are practical ones which relate closely to the children's everyday life. The most useful starting point is to help with the mathematical language which your child will come across at school.

Size words:

Large, larger than, largest, long, longer than, longest, short, shorter than, shortest, tall etc...

Time words:

Now, before, after, today, yesterday, tomorrow and days of the week...

Colour words:

Red, green, blue etc...

Number words:

One, two, three, etc...

Quantity words:

Fewer, fewer than, less than, more than, lots...

Shape words:

Circle, triangle, square, rectangle, cube, cuboid, cylinder, sphere, points, straight, curved...

Position words:

Above, behind, below, beside, in front, inside, outside, over, top, under...

Ideas in the home:	Outside the home:
Cooking: - Counting (E.g. how many eggs, spoonsful, cake cases etc...) - More or less - Timing cooking - Weighing heavy or light - Matching cutlery to number of people	Shopping: - Count number of objects bought - Pay for small items - Compare sizes of items - Shapes of packages - Look for numbers
Playing: - Games e.g. snakes and ladders, dominoes, pairs games, - Bath time - full, empty, holds more, holds less... - Brick play - patterns, counting, colour, shape, size... - Cars/dolls/animals - Sort by shape, size and colour	Walking/Driving - Count animals in a field - Count windows in a house - Count cars - Describe shapes e.g. a block of flats, leaves, shells... - Describe colours - Look for numbers in or on shops, houses and buses. - Look for specific shapes

Remember: Learning should always be enjoyable for both child and parent. By taking opportunities to relate mathematics to everyday experiences and showing a genuine interest in your child's play activities, you will be building up your child's interest and enthusiasm whilst helping him or her to master some of the necessary basic skills required in mathematics.