

Counting and putting numbers in order

Use old magazines, comics or greetings cards.

Cut out pictures of animals or anything else your child is interested in.

Label the animals 1 to 5.











Shuffle the animals. Put them in order from 1 to 5.

Remove one animal. Ask your child: which number is missing?

Repeat with other numbers and with more than one missing number.

Ask your child to say what number comes before or after a number you choose.

When your child can do this, repeat with numbers 1 to 10. Then 1 to 20.

Counting

Practise counting.

- Start at 5 and count on from there to 11.
- Start at 9, count back from there to zero.

Choose a different starting number each time.

Reception

Help your child with Maths

Build a tower

For this game you need a dice and some building blocks or lego bricks.

Take turns.

Roll the dice.

Collect the number of bricks to build your own tower.

The first to 10 wins!

For a change, start with 10 blocks or bricks each. Take away the number on the dice. First to exactly zero wins.

One more, one less

For this game you need a dice, a coin and some building blocks or Lego bricks.

Take turns to roll the dice.

Build a tower with that number of blocks or bricks.

Then toss the coin. Heads means take one brick off. Tails means add one on.

If you can guess how many bricks there will be after this, you keep them!

The first to collect 20 bricks or more wins!

Recognising numbers

Choose a number for the week, e.g. 2.

Encourage your child to look out for this number all the time.

Can your child see the number 2 anywhere?

at home - in the kitchen

- on pages in a book

in the street - on doors

- on car number plates

- on buses

while out shopping - on the shop till

- on shelves

- in shop windows

- Find two apples, toys, spoons, straws, sweets, etc.
- Make patterns, such as two knives, two forks, two spoons, two knives, two forks, two spoons...
- Practise writing the number 2.

Choose a different number each week

Rhymes

Teach your child any number rhymes or songs that you know. Particularly ones that involve holding up a number of fingers, like *Five little speckled frogs*.

Practise them regularly, with actions.

Spot the difference

Draw a row of six big coloured spots.

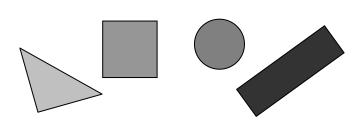


In turn, one player closes their eyes.

The other player hides some of the spots with a sheet of paper.

The first player looks and says how many spots are hidden.

Try with other numbers of spots, e.g. five or seven.



Out and about

On the way to school, see how many Squares, triangles, rectangles and circles you can spot.

Which did you see most of?