

EVERYDAY ACTIVITIES TO HELP SUPPORT YOUR CHILD WITH MATHS

NUMBER RECOGNITION

- Look at the calendar and talk about the day/date/month/season.
- Point out numbers on signs when you are out.
- Look at house numbers.
- Talk about and look at prices when you are shopping.
- Play games with numbers, puzzles, cards etc. by sorting or ordering them.
- Play board games such as snakes and ladders or pairs or snap games.



COUNTING SKILLS

- Count the toys as you tidy up.
- Count the stairs as you walk up and down.
- Count trees in the park or windows/doors in the house.
- Count buses, cars, bikes you pass in the street.
- Estimate how many steps to somewhere and then count and check the answer.



MATHEMATICAL SKILLS

- Talk about the size of objects-compare bigger/smaller, taller/longer/shorter. You could use shoes, clothes, trees....
- Talk about shapes in the environment – eg wheels are circles, doors are rectangles, tins are cylinders. Match them up or make models or pictures of them.
- Introduce them to weight and capacity through cooking or pouring drinks.
- Talk about position – eg on/under/beside.
- Make simple repeating patterns using things like cutlery, socks, coins.



BE INSPIRED! THERE ARE ENDLESS ACTIVITIES THAT WILL MAKE LEARNING FUN!

HOW TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILD WITH READING

- Reading should be enjoyable so choose a time when you both want to read.
- Tell your child that this is their special time and you enjoy spending it with them
- Find somewhere quiet and comfortable to read together
- Don't allow interruptions from the tv, phone etc to spoil your session
- Try to read for 10-20 minutes each day, but never force your child to read – there is always tomorrow!



HOW TO START

- Before you begin to read look at the book together and talk about the title and the picture on the front cover. Discuss what the book might be about.
- Look at the characters and talk about them. Tell your child any names so that they are familiar with them in the story.
- Look through the whole book first discussing the pictures. Use the vocabulary that you can see in the text. This will familiarise your child with what is going to happen and help prepare them for the relevant words.
- Encourage your child to point to each word as they read.
- Draw your child's attention to any unusual, interesting or rhyming words.
- Occasionally ask your child about what he/she has read so far and to guess what might happen next. This checks understanding and encourage prediction.
- If your child gets stuck on a word, wait a few seconds to allow them to work it out. Then encourage the following: search for a clue in the picture, say the first letter of the word and scan the picture for clues, sound out simple words, eg p-o-t, look for the same word on a previous page.
- Some words are "tricky" (red) and just have to be learned by their shape. If your child needs help with one of these, just tell it to them and carry on reading together.
- Please record what your child has read in the reading record book each time and add any relevant comments.



REMEMBER THE MOST IMPORTANT THING IS PRAISE AND ENCOURAGEMENT WHICH HELPS TO BOOST CONFIDENCE.