

# Hillsborough Primary School



Support your child at home with maths.

## Maths is everywhere.

It's true, maths really is everywhere and learning about maths doesn't just happen at nursery or school, you can help you child at home too. Young children have lots of important maths experiences every day and we can all help them to begin to develop their mathematical skills.

We all use maths many times every day, numbers, shapes, measuring and solving problems are all needed for simple tasks like measuring out the washing powder, making the right number of sandwiches for dinner or sharing a cake into equal pieces. These tasks are part of everyday routine and you can help young children to understand what maths is used for by talking about all the day to day routine maths you use.

You can show children how important number, size, shape and pattern are in everyday life by:

- Asking them to look for the correct bus number
- Reading aloud the quantities printed on food labels
- Pointing out the numbers on a clock
- Finding the right TV channel on a remote control
- Talking about how things fit together and tidying away after playing.
- Using mobile phones/telephones to make calls



Children will not understanding all the maths you use but it will help them to get to know the numbers and other maths words.

## How do children learn maths?

One of the first things a parent/carer can do is sing number songs and rhymes, especially when using their fingers. These games quickly grab the attention of even very young children. The repetition in these rhymes means that even the quite young toddlers will soon pick up the words and will join in the chorus and by using their fingers children will soon learn that one movement matches one

sound. As children get a little older they begin to play more complicated games, these may include cards, dice and will probably involve some rules. Playing games such as Snap, Happy Families or Snakes and Ladders help children to learn valuable maths skills such as adding up and reading numbers.

Different children develop at different rates and they will learn maths in a different order. From the age of three children begin to understand more about numbers, shapes and measurement. They may be able to say the numbers up to 10 and count a small number of objects. From this age children will be learning to say, count and recognise numbers; use words such as more, less, greater, smaller, make simple patterns and talk about them and name basic shapes. They will also use words to describe the position of something such as over, under, behind, next to. All these skills can be practiced at home:

- Count the stairs when going to bed
- Count their toys, move them around and count again.
- Count how many items are going in the trolley at the supermarket
- Recognise numbers on car number plates/front doors/buses etc. when taking a walk
- Make patterns with socks/sweets etc and ask them to talk about them
- Ask simple questions such as whose plate has the most tea/compare objects and ask which is smallest, tallest to help them understand the words to compare things
- Ask them to find 5 circles/3 triangles/5 rectangles/4 squares etc in the house
- When tidying up ask them to put things in certain places by using positional language such as put the car next to the doll.



As children become a little older they learn to count to the hundreds, count forwards and backwards, say 1 more and 1 less, add and subtract, talk about shapes and measures and begin to share, halve and double, as well as naming and describing common shapes. This is still done in a practical way. Once again these can all be practised at home.

## Maths around the home

In addition to the maths above, here are a few ideas for maths around the home.

- Stand in front of the mirror together and do actions like put your finger ON your nose, touch the TOP of your head, scratch BEHIND your ear etc.

- Talk about which order to get dressed in and which items to put on first, next, last etc.
- Sort out clothes to see which are the right size, too small or too big.
- Match pairs of socks, shoes, gloves, slippers, put buttons through the correct buttons holes
- Use plastic boats in the bath and see how many coins are needed to make it sink
- Have a pretend clock at the side of a real one and say its time to get up/eat/go to school etc. when the time matches

## Maths outdoors

- Create an obstacle course with boxes to go through, a board to balance along, a blanket to hide behind etc.
- Look for numbers while walking in the street, look for how many of a particular number you can find, look for numbers in order, first a 1 then a 2 and so on - who can find the largest number?
- Give children a small bag and ask them to collect 5 interesting things such as a conker, a leaf, a stone or feather.
- Play 'I spy' using descriptions instead of a letter e.g. I spy with my little eye something that is small and smooth or long and prickly.
- Compare 2 shopping bags and say which is the heaviest and lightest.

## Maths for rainy days

- Let children play with calculators
- Count fingers, toes, eyes, noses, socks and shoes - also could add together the total number of eyes to the total numbers of noses.
- Make birthday cards writing the age on the front.
- Cut out numbers from magazines and catalogues and stick them onto paper in the correct order
- Play games such as Snap, Snakes and Ladders or any board games using a dice.
- Play skittles and keep score.
- Use empty boxes to make a model - what shapes have they used? Are the boxes all the same size?
- Wrap up presents, how big will the paper need to be?
- Use a hand mirror to show reflection or symmetry.
- Fill up cups with water using small spoons - how many spoonfuls does it take, change the size of the spoon and try again - what do you find now?
- Bake - weighing out the measurements.



Other useful sites:

[www.topmarks.co.uk](http://www.topmarks.co.uk)

[www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies](http://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies)

[www.mathplayground.com](http://www.mathplayground.com)

[www.ictgames.com](http://www.ictgames.com)



# 100 Square



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70
71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80
81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90
91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100

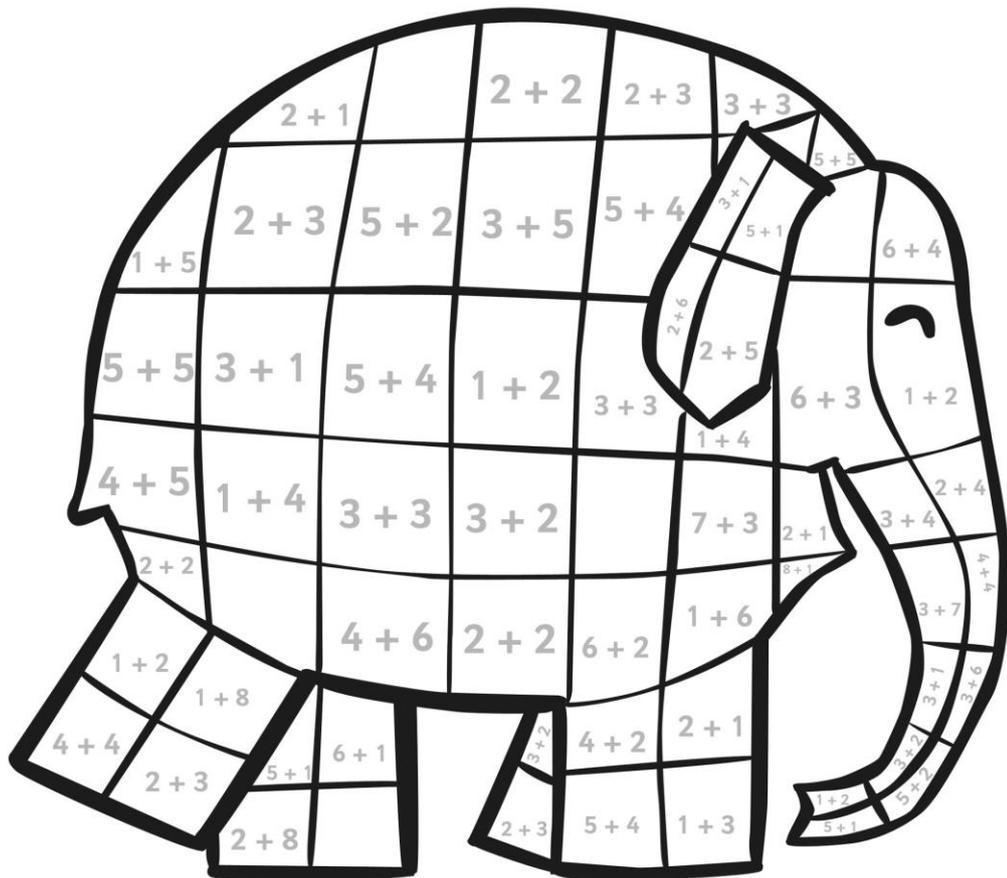


## Elmer Addition To 10 Colour by Number Sheet

Solve the sums in the boxes to work out what colours they should be!

3 = Yellow    4 = Orange    5 = Blue    6 = Red

7 = Purple    8 = Black    9 = Pink    10 = Green



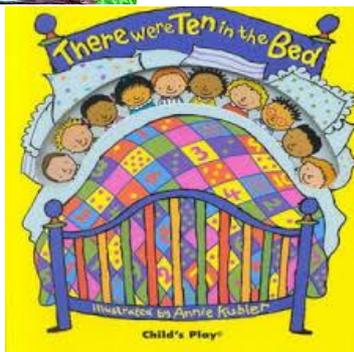
# 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10

Here are some numbers songs to enjoy with your children at home.

1, 2, 3, 4, 5  
Once I caught a fish alive  
6, 7, 8, 9, 10  
Then I let it go again  
Why did you let it go?  
Because it bit my finger so  
Which finger did it bite?  
This little finger on my right



3 little monkeys jumping on the bed  
1 fell off and bumped his head  
Mummy phoned the Doctor and the  
Doctor said,  
"No more monkeys jumping on the bed!"  
2 little monkeys etc.  
1 little monkey etc.



There were 10 in the bed and the little one said  
"Roll over, roll over"  
So they all rolled over and 1 fell out.  
There were 9 in the bed and the little one said  
"Roll over, roll over" etc.  
[All the way down to 1]

5 little speckled frogs  
Sat on a speckled log  
Eating some most delicious bugs,  
yum, yum  
1 jumped into the pool  
Where it was nice and cool  
Now there are 4 more speckled frogs  
glub, glub  
4 little speckled frogs etc.  
3 little speckled frogs etc.  
2 little speckled frogs etc.  
1 little speckled frog etc.



Children will enjoy singing these rhymes and they will also help them to start being more confident with numbers. Using your fingers will help your child have a visual understanding of number facts.

If you don't know the tunes - ask the children, I bet they do!

Can you trace the numbers?

