

Everyday activities you can do to help your child's Mathematical skills

- Talk about the size of objects, compare them - which is bigger/smaller, taller/shorter, longer/shorter e.g. look at an adult and child shoe/clothes, cutlery, different sized tower, trees etc
- Talk about shapes, identify them in your environment, match them, make models/pictures with shapes
- Introduce them to weight through cooking - heavier/lighter 
- Talk about the position of objects - e.g. it's on the chair, under the table, next to the table etc.
- Create patterns using blocks, hanging washing out, cutlery, socks etc. 
- Ask questions related to numbers in everyday activities - eg. We have 6 apples. If I eat one now how many will be left? There is one piece of chicken on my plate and one on your plate - how many are there altogether?
- Go shopping! Give your child the money they need to make a small purchase.
- Spot the difference.

Everyday activities you can do to help your child's recognition of numbers

- Look at the calendar, talk about the date
- Point out numbers on signs when you are out
- Look at house numbers
- Talk about prices when you are out shopping
- Number puzzles/blocks/cards - order the numbers

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- Match a number of objects to the number card



- Numbers pairs/snap/ hopscotch

- Use old magazines, comics or greeting 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 more than one missing number.

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



- Use media such as playdough, soil, sand to make the shapes of numbers

Everyday activities you can do to help your child's counting skills

- Sing number rhymes
- Count the toys as you put them away
- Count the stairs as you walk up and down them
- Count the number of buses that pass you in the street



- Count the lampposts as you walk down the street



- Count the trees/flowers in the garden



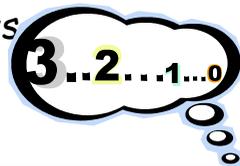
- Count the clothes on the washing line

- Count the cutlery as you lay the table

- In turn, one player claps 1, 2, 3, or 4 times while the other player closes their eyes and listens. How many claps did you hear? Take that number of shapes. The first to make a pattern with 12 sticky shapes wins.

- 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.

- Chose a focus number, find objects of that number eg. Find twelve apples, toys, straws, sweets, etc.



- Dice games.