

Children respond to activities that involve active learning in a real context. Interacting with your child by talking about maths or playing games is very worthwhile. Numbers are everywhere, on buses, on telephones, on money etc. The following suggestions can involve you and your child informally in maths activities, and make their learning enjoyable.

Some games to support mathematics are Snakes and ladders, Dominoes, Playing cards, Bingo, Connect 4 and Yahtzee.

The learning process can increasingly involve the use of computers. The following websites offer children practice and extension in using their maths skills.

www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/numberjacks

www.funbrain.com/kidscenter.html

www.aaamath.com

<http://www.primarygames.com/math.php>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/mathsfile/index.shtml>

www.sumdog.com



Applegrove Primary Mental Maths

First Level

P1 - P4

Number

Methods of mental calculation are vital in helping children to understand number and use it well. Regular oral and mental work develops children's calculation strategies and recall skills.

Curriculum for Excellence Numeracy Targets

I can share ideas with others to develop ways of estimating the answer to a calculation or problem, work out the actual answer, then check my solution by comparing it with the estimate. [MNU 1-01a](#)

I have investigated how whole numbers are constructed, can understand the importance of zero within the system and can use my knowledge to explain the link between a digit, its place and its value. [MNU 1-02a](#)

Range and type of numbers

Activities

- Numbers are everywhere; point them out to your child. Look at larger numbers up to 100.
- Play a guessing game – "Guess my number" giving your child clues like

It's bigger than 20

It's smaller than 56

It's an even number

- Play commercial games such as Snakes and ladders.
- Point out numbers in your child's environment, e.g. door numbers, numbers on buses etc.
- Cut cakes or toast into halves and quarters to identify two and four equal parts.
- Encourage your child to share out sweets, crisps among four people.

Rounding Numbers

Remember the rule 'up to 5' round down, '5 and above' round up.

Activities

- Discuss how many people are in a queue and round the number to the Nearest ten, e.g. 17 people in a queue would be rounded up to 20.
53 passengers on a bus would be rounded to 50

Patterns and Sequences

Your child will be copying, continuing and describing more complex patterns, using objects and numbers

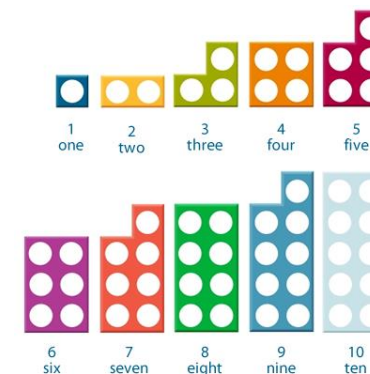
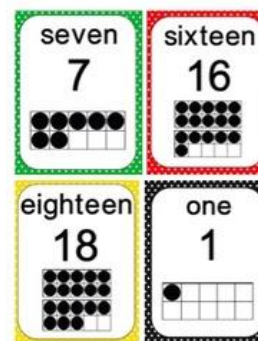


2, 3, 4, 5

17, 15, 13, 11

- Get your child to help around the house, and talk about the pattern on the wallpaper, on clothes etc
- Look for patterns in 2, 5 and 10 sequences

Ten Frames and Numicon.



The children will continue to use Ten Frames and Numicon to help them to see and understand the value of numbers. The following websites will provide you with further information.

www.tenframesystem.com/home.html

www.numicon.com