



Keir Hardie Memorial Primary School



Ideas and suggestions to help your child with
Early Maths Development



This booklet contains some simple ideas and activities that can be used at home or when you are out and about.

You can help your child by:

- Making maths fun - not just sitting down with them.
- Incorporate maths into everyday life.
- Support by showing them how to do it (but don't do it all for them).
- Ask them to explain what they did & how they worked it out.
- BE POSITIVE - it's ok to make mistakes! Just remember to give encouragement.

Please don't shy away from maths if you didn't like it at school. Try to find new ways to enjoy the subject with your child.

The most important thing is that you have fun together!!



What can you do to help your child with early maths development?

Draw attention to numbers and how they are used such as addresses, prices of objects and shoe sizes.

Use strategies that help children learn to count accurately and efficiently such as pointing to/touching/moving each object being counted.

Baking and measuring ingredients.

Singing songs with numbers

Use positional language: Big/small, More/Less, Under, Between etc



Use any opportunity that arises to count with your child, such as counting the stairs when they go to bed, places laid at the table or number of toys they are putting away.

Play matching and pairing games.

Play games to encourage turn taking and sharing.

Point out the time on the clock and discussing the position of the hands.

Creating and continuing patterns with a variety of objects in the garden and around the house.

Play board games which need a dice e.g ludo or snakes and ladders.

Talk about numbers in the environment and in story books.

Go for a walk and count how many jumps, claps or steps.

Make numbers fun!!!!



Language of Maths

It is very important that the language of maths is used accurately. Here are a few ideas to help your child develop their understanding.

Activity 1

Play the "Do As I Say" game. Tell your child to do as you say e.g

- Stand **behind** the door.
- Stand **beside** the chair.
- Sit **in front of** the television.
- Kneel **next to** me.
- Hold one hand **above** your head.

Take it in turns with your child to give the instructions.

Activity 2 - Hide the Teddy

Hide a teddy in a place around the house.

Ask your child to use the correct words to describe exactly where he/she found the teddy. e.g The teddy was **behind** the curtain.



Useful Websites

Top Marks Early Years

A wide selection of fun, interactive games to help develop a range of numeracy skills.

www.topmarks.co.uk

Singing with your children.

Many nursery songs help children to count backwards and forward. The website below takes you to the BBC site and has animations, words and music to sing along to.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schoolradio/subjects/earlylearning/nurserysongs>

Parentzone Scotland

Fun ideas to help support numeracy at home.

<https://education.gov.scot/parentzone/learning-at-home/supporting-numeracy/Introduction%20to%20supporting%20numeracy>

Read, Write, Count

Tips, ideas and activities for you and your children to read, write and count together and promote home school partnerships.

www.readwritecount.scot