



Numeracy Ideas for using dominoes to develop number sense at home



Subitising

Use domino as a flashcard, cover one side and ask how many dots? You are looking for child to say at a glance how many they see rather than counting individual dots.

How Many?

Turn over domino or use as a flashcard to ask the question how many? Children should progress from initially counting all dots to using taught number strategies/number bonds.

Can you find?

Lay all dominoes out so that dots can be seen. Give a number and ask if your child can find a domino that shows that number, e.g target number of 7 - find a 5 & 2, 4 & 3, 1 & 6. Discuss all the different number bonds that they have found, what happens if you turn domino the other way? 5&2 gives the same answer as 2&5.



Domino Place Value

Choose a domino and use the dots to make a 2 digit number. E.g 36 or 63, 42 or 24. Ask questions such as - What is the biggest number you can make? What is the smallest number? If 2 people are playing - who has the biggest number?

Use the < > symbols to write calculation. E.g $63 > 24$

Odds and Evens

Have the words odd and even written on paper or whiteboards. Ask your child to sort the dominoes under the headings using the total of both sides added together. You can play 'How many?' Then use answer to decide if odd or even.

Domino sorting

Can your child sort all the dominoes by the total number of dots? All the dominoes that make 4 grouped together, 8 etc.

Creating calculations

Use dominoes to make addition or subtraction stories.

- Choose a domino and ask if a calculation can be made, e.g $5+3=8$, can your child write this calculation once they have solved it mentally. Can a subtraction calculation be created, $5-3=2$. How many calculations can be made?
- Progress to 2 dominoes, Tens and Ones, $53+21=74$. This can be extended to create 4 digit numbers, 6 digit numbers, decimals.

Domino addition to 10 - Aim to create a row that equals 10. First person places a domino down, if it were a 3 and a 4 the other player wants to find a domino that has a 3 to complete the row. The person who makes 10 wins the point.



Domino magic square

Write a number on a post it/whiteboard and use the dominoes to make a square around the number. Each side of the square has to add up to make the target number.

