



Some ways to support your child's numeracy learning at home...

Your child is unique, and will continue to develop as an individual, at an individual rate. Every child is able to learn, and will learn best when they feel supported, encouraged, and have an adult who spends time talking, listening, playing, and reading with them.

Here are some fun, everyday activities that you can do at home to help your child develop essential early numeracy skills:

- ★ play **number and counting games** when you are out together – how many red cars can you see?; who can be the first to see the number 4 on a number plate?...
- ★ play simple **number and counting games** at home – board games are fantastic!
- ★ let your child see and hear you as you **use numbers and counting for real reasons** - counting out enough plates, counting ingredients during cooking, and checking your change
- ★ encourage them to **recognise small amounts at a glance** – without counting!
- ★ encourage them to **look for smaller collections inside a bigger collection**, for example, 7 pieces of apple could be separated into collections of 1 & 6, 2 & 5, 3 & 4
- ★ **play with blocks** – apart from having fun playing with blocks, they are also great for developing early skills – counting, grouping, shape recognition, ordering according to size or mass (weight), making patterns, problem solving...
- ★ use **describing and comparing language** - longer/shorter, heavier/lighter, holds more/less when comparing objects – this helps to form ideas about what we can measure, and why
- ★ use **position words** and **describe shapes** during every day activities. This will help your child to build a rich vocabulary for talking about where they are (e.g. I am on the slide), where they are going (e.g. I am going to go down the slide); and what things look like (e.g. it has straight edges, it is a square)
- ★ **think out loud** – it is a great way to 'model' to your child how you solve problems.

Some informative and fun websites to share together include:

<http://det.wa.edu.au/schoolsandyou>

<http://www.abc.net.au/abcforkids/sites/playschool/>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/>

<http://www.nickjr.com/games-activities/>

http://www.aussiechildcarenetwork.com/children_activities_and_games.php

<http://www.bestkidsapps.com/ages-0-4/best-ipad-apps-of-2010-for-preschoolers/>