



How you can help your child at home

- Say positive - Everyone can do Maths
- Maths is everywhere – practice little and often!
- Ask children to explain their answers to questions. When they respond with an answer, ask the question: how do you know?

Cardinality and Counting

Understanding that the cardinal value of a number refers to the quantity, or 'howmanyness' of things it represents.

- Count steps up the stairs, cars along the road, jumps, bounces of a ball
- Sing number songs and rhymes e.g. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5; 10 green bottles; 10 in the bed
- Play board games using a dice

Composition

Understanding that one number can be made up from (composed from) two or more smaller numbers.

- Ask your child to be a Super Subitiser when looking at quantities to 5 (Subitising – don't count...see the amount!)
- Pose the questions: What do you see? How do you see it?
- Play games using dice and dominoes and encourage children to say how many spots without counting
- Set the table at dinner time. How many plates do we need?

Comparison

Comparing numbers involves knowing which number are worth more or less than each other.

- Share toys at home. Ask children to give you one more/one less than a given number
- Ask questions: Who has more? Who has less/fewer?
- Ask children to convert two unequal groups of objects into two that have the same number

Pattern

Looking for and finding patterns helps children notice and understand mathematical relationships.

How can you help at home?

- Copy and continue a repeated pattern.
- Spot patterns around your home (i.e cushion/blanket patterns)
- Identify a pattern in a story.

Shape

The focus is on identifying shapes in the everyday environment, exploring their properties.

How can you help at home?

- Go on a shape hunt - Identify the shapes in your home. 'The window is an oblong/rectangle. The clock has a circle face.'
- Create pictures of collages using different shapes.
- Place shapes in a bag or under a blanket and describe the shape for your child. Can they identify what the shape is and why?
- Use recyclable materials to create a junk model.

Representation of Numbers

How can you help at home?

- Watch Numberblocks episodes on CBeebies/BBC Iplayer with your child and visit their website: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/ceebies/shows/numberblocks>
- Practise drawing/finding lots of ways to represent numbers
- Spot numerals in the environment – on phones, remote controls, clocks, number plates, doors etc
- Practise forming the numerals using the number formation rhymes
- Hide numerals around the house or garden to find and place in the correct order

Time:

How can you help at home?

- Use sand timers and stop watches to measure different lengths of time.
- Challenge your child to find out how many hops, jumps, skips, kicks of a ball they can do in a certain time (using a sand timer or stopwatch).
- Look at digital and analogue clocks and talk about important times for the children: bedtime, lunchtime, home time.
- Create clocks out of paper plates and explore spinning the hands to see how a clock moves.
- Have a go at playing online games that are timed (phonics play has some of these!) and then try and beat your time.
- Read 'The Bed Tempered Ladybird' by Eric Carle.
- Talk about your morning routine – Use time to sequence events.

Position (Spatial Reasoning):

The focus is on actively exploring spatial relations, in order to develop mathematical thinking.

How can you help at home?

- Play the game 'Simon Says' using positional language
- Play instruction games using a blindfold.
- Use remote control toys to follow a set path.
- Create patterns on peg board (or any similar toy) asking children to place pegs above, next to, below other pegs/

- Play with construction toys: follow instructions to build different models (these might be visual or verbal instruction given by you).
- Draw or make a simple map of a route with 'landmarks', e.g. houses and trees

Measures

Measuring is based on the idea of using numbers of units in order to compare attributes, such as length, weight and volume.

How can you help at home?

- Let's get cooking. Measure ingredients, comparing and estimating amounts
- Provide real life cooking experiences for you child to use digital and manual scales and measure liquids: baking cakes, making pancakes, making homemade pizzas.
- Add different sized bottles, containers and funnels to the bath.
- Add different sized bottles or containers to sand.
- Experiment with the seesaw at the park.
- Use manual scales to balance different toys.

Size:

How can you help at home?

- Arrange or ask your children arrange your family, friends or toys into height order. Discuss tallest, shortest.
- Provide your child with rules and metre sticks/tape measures for free play.
- Use blocks, Lego or construction toys to build towers of different heights
- Go on a nature walk and collect natural materials to arrange into length order: sticks, leaves, pinecones etc.

Money:

How can you help at home?

- Carry money in your purse/wallet and allow children to help you pay for shopping using money.
- Ask your child to sort money into groups – look at the shape and colour of the coins.
- Provide role play opportunities for your child using coins, bags, toys, play food, price tags.