

## Reception Maths at home

Whilst your children are busy learning about numbers and maths in Reception, there are also lots of ways that you can support your child at home through fun activities and games that you can do or include in your everyday routines!

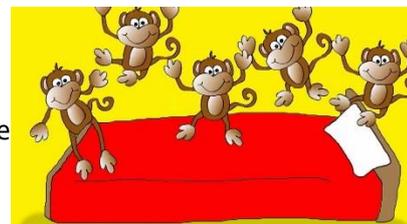
Here are a few ideas to help you...

### Your children are learning to recite numbers in order, both forward and backwards!

Learning the order of numbers and where numbers are in relation to other numbers is an important first skill.

Practise counting in ones with your child anywhere and everywhere! Don't forget to count forwards **and** backwards from 1-10, then 1-20.

Number rhymes such as 'One, two, three, four, five...' and '10 fat sausages' are great for teaching your child to count forwards and backwards. You can find lots of number rhyme videos online, or ask your child to teach you some they have learned in school!



Encourage your child to begin to represent the numbers using their fingers as they sing.

### Your children are learning to count carefully!

Counting is important and is a foundation for early addition and subtraction.

Your child will begin to realise that everything can be counted – not just objects! During your everyday lives encourage your children to count everything – the stairs, pieces of fruit in the fruit bowl, books on the bookshelf. But also – claps, jumps, kicking a ball. The list is endless!

When your child is counting a set of objects, encourage them to line the objects up if possible and to use a 'careful counting finger' to touch each object as they count. Slowly and carefully is the way to go!

How many apples are in the fruit bowl? How many cars are in the toy box? How many spots does that dog have?

Encourage your child to 'count out' specific numbers of objects as you go about your daily routines.

Can you put 4 knives and forks on the table ready for dinner? Can you put 6 carrots in the shopping trolley?



### Your children are learning to recognise numerals.



Numbers are everywhere! Point out and encourage your child to spot numerals in the environment e.g. door numbers and number plates on cars. You can play games such as 'pairs' and 'bingo' with your child to encourage them to recognise numerals, initially 1-10 but progressing to 20 and beyond as they become more confident.

## Addition and Subtraction

Your children are learning to add and subtract through practical activities in Reception. You can do the same at home! Provide your child with opportunities to add and subtract whilst they play.

You have 3 cars and 4 trucks so how many vehicles do you have altogether? We have 2 bananas and 5 apples in the fruit bowl so how many pieces of fruit do we have altogether?



## Your children are learning to compare sets of objects!

More or less? Your children are learning to compare two sets of objects using the language 'more' and 'less'. You can do the same at home.

Are there more chocolate biscuits or jammy dodgers in the biscuit tin? Are there less dolls or teddy bears on the bed?



Encourage your child to then carefully count each set of objects and reinforce the correct language. Yes, 3 dolls is less than 6 teddy bears.

Once your child is confident using the language 'more' and 'less' encourage them to find one more or one less than a given number whilst they play.

Thomas is pulling two carriages. How many carriages would he have if we added one more? How many would he have if we took one away and he had one less to pull?

## Finally, maths is all around us and we're using it everyday!

Many of you will already be doing these types of mathematical activities and practising your child's numerical skills without even thinking about it!

The most important thing is to make learning maths FUN!



## Some fun online games:

[http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/websites/4\\_11/site/numeracy.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/websites/4_11/site/numeracy.shtml)

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/3-5-years/counting>

[http://www.familylearning.org.uk/counting\\_games.html](http://www.familylearning.org.uk/counting_games.html)

<http://www.ictgames.com/resources.html>