

Helping your child at home

M A T H S



In the street

- Recognising numbers on buses
- Number plate hunt. Who can find a number 7?
- Looking at door numbers
- Counting - how many street lights can you see on the way to school?

Doing the washing

- Counting in 2s - matching shoes
- Sorting by colour and size.
- Matching pairs of socks.
- Find four shoes that are different sizes. Can you put them in size order?



Time

- What day is it yesterday, today, tomorrow?
- Use timers, phones and clocks to measure short periods of time.
- Count down 10/ 20 seconds to get to the table/ into bed etc.
- Recognising numbers on the clock. If you cover a number, what number is missing?



Food

- Can you cut your toast into 4 pieces? Can you cut it into triangles, squares, rectangles?
- Setting the table. Counting the right number of plates etc. How many more do we need?
- Can you make shapes/ patterns out of the knives and forks? Can you put them in the right place in

the drawer?

- Helping with the cooking by measuring and counting ingredients.
- Setting the timer.
- Positional language at dinner time: What is on the rice? Where are the carrots etc?

Going shopping

- Reading price tags
- Counting items into the basket
- Finding and counting coins
- Comparing weights - which is heavier?



Measuring

- Are you taller or shorter than a ...?
- Marking and comparing heights on the wall.
- Cut hand shapes out of paper. How many hands long is the sofa? How long is the table? Which is longer/shorter?
- Who has the biggest hands in our family?



- How many steps from the gate to the front door?
- Counting stairs up to bed

Shapes

- Cut a potato into shapes (circles, triangle etc). Use with paint to make pictures and repeating patterns.
- Cut out shapes from coloured paper/newspaper and arrange into pictures.
- Shape hunt: Can you find a square in your house (windows etc.), a circle ...?



Playdough

Here is a simple recipe:

1 cup of plain flour

1 cup of water

1 tablespoon cooking oil

2 teaspoons cream of tartar

Half a cup of salt

food colouring and essences (optional)

Put all ingredients in a large saucepan, heat slowly, stirring all the time until it forms a ball. Keep it wrapped in cling film or in a covered tub to stop it drying out.



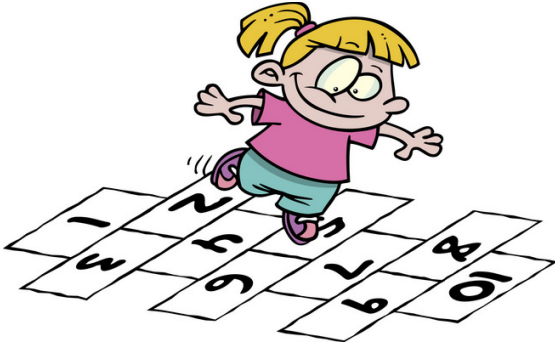
and

Then

- Make numerals and shapes
- Sort shapes into groups, or order by size
- Make long and short wiggly snakes.

Games

- Counting cards into piles
- Jigsaws (you can make your own by cutting up a magazine picture)
- Snap (matching pairs) or Happy Families (collect 4 of a kind)
 - Snakes and ladders or other simple dice games.
 - Adding dots together on two dice.
 - Bingo, with numbers or shapes
 - Hopscotch



Number rhymes and songs - For Example:

*5 little monkeys jumping on the bed,
One fell off and bumped his head,
Mummy called the doctor and the doctor said,
"No more monkeys jumping on the bed!"
4 little monkeys jumping on the bed ...*

