



Guide to Maths in Reception

This leaflet is to give you some ideas about how you can support your child's learning in maths in fun, practical ways at home.



Food

- Can you cut your toast into 4 pieces? Can you cut it into triangles?
- Setting the table. Counting the right number of plates etc. How many more do we need?
- Helping with the cooking by measuring and counting ingredients.
- Positional language at dinner time: what is on the rice, where are the carrots etc?

In the street



- Recognising bus numbers
- Number plate hunt. Who can find a 7? Add the numbers up.
- Comparing door numbers
- Counting – how many lampposts on the way to school?

Doing the washing

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





Time

- What day was 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 was missing?

Going shopping

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

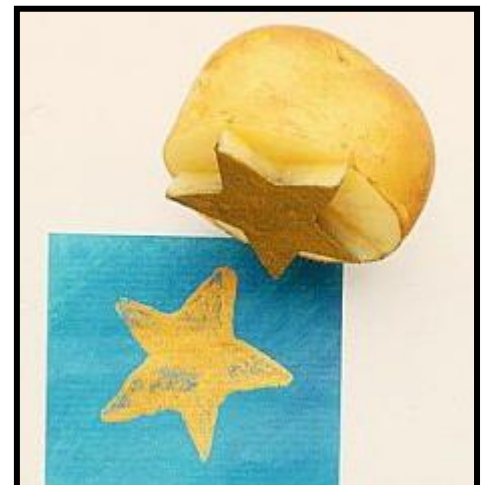


Measuring

- Are you taller than a ...?
- Cut hand shapes out of paper. How many hands long is the couch? How long is the table? Which is longer?
- Who has the biggest hands?
- How many steps from the gate to the front door?

Shapes

- Cut a potato into shapes (circles, triangle etc). Use with paint to make pictures and 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 ...



Games

- 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 numbers on two dice.
- Bingo, with numbers or shapes
- Hopscotch

Number rhymes and songs

*Eg: 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 ...*



Your child can teach you lots more or look on YouTube for number rhymes.

Internet maths games:

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

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/topics/numeracy>

http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/websites/4_11/site/numeracy.shtml

<http://www.crickweb.co.uk/Early-Years.html>

