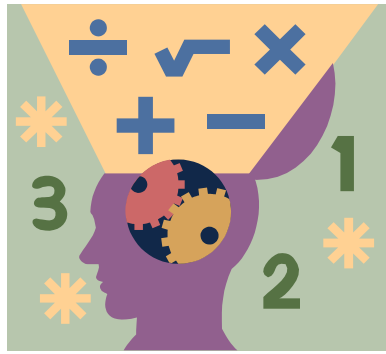


Parents' Guide to Early Maths Development



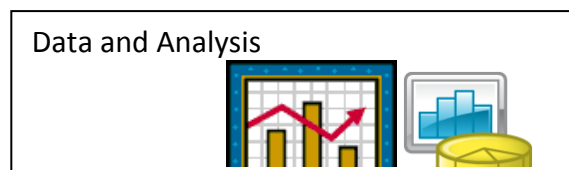
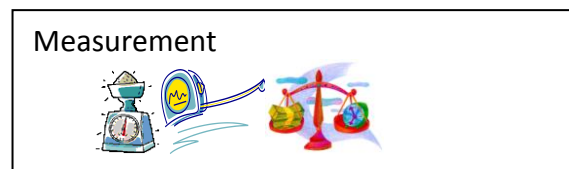
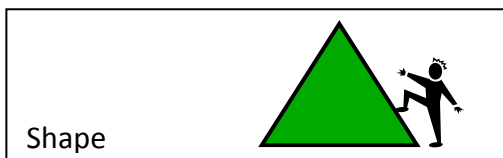
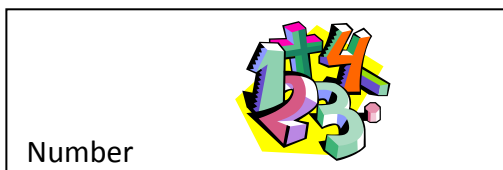
Numbers are All Around Us!

Children are very aware of numbers long before they go to school. YOU can greatly help your child develop an early understanding and awareness of numbers.

- Children see numbers everyday on doors, in shops, on buses, on telephones, on car registrations, in the Nursery, on TV, on the TV remote control, etc. Use these opportunities to talk about the numbers and what they mean
- Watch DVDs, TV programmes, or audio tapes about numbers
- Use pretend play and role play situations to develop awareness of number, e.g. when playing shops, post offices, hospital play etc
- Count wherever and whenever you can
- Encourage your child to observe when you are counting
- Encourage your child to observe when you are writing numbers
- Use everyday object in your home to reinforce their number awareness, e.g. by using phones, changing channels on the TV, etc
- Use moveable numbers, e.g. magnetic numbers, bath toy numbers
- Use them to put numbers in correct order
- When your child is ready, encourage him/her to copy write numbers

Maths is Everywhere!

- Maths is not simply about numbers and calculations but about size, weight, capacity, shape and space, measuring, length, colours, time, patterns and relationships, organisation and data analysis and much more.
- Children, in their everyday life, experience Maths and are building their understanding of mathematical ideas and concepts. Through their play, curiosity, observations and testing out of ideas, they are constantly gaining some understanding of the concepts of size, shape, weight, capacity, number, colour and of many other mathematical concepts.
- Parents have a vital role to play in helping their children develop an understanding of maths and mathematical language. By using and building on everyday situations and family routines, playing games, talking, listening, discussing, making, investigating and observing, parents lay a crucial foundation for future learning.



You Can Help Your Child

Learn the language of Maths.....

- Capacity --- empty, full, more, less, etc
- Size- --- large, small, wee, big, tall, short, fat, thin, long, short, bigger than, smaller than, longer than, shorter than, etc
- Weight--- heavy, light, lighter than, heavier than, about the same as, etc
- Colour----- names of colours, same as, different to, etc
- Number---- more, less, many, few, more than, less than, bigger, smaller, how many, add, take away, etc
- Shape---round, circle, triangle, square, rectangle, triangle, etc
- 3D shape--- cube, cuboid, sphere, cylinder, triangular prism, etc
- Position---in front of, behind, next to, on top of, under, beside,

You Can Do This By!

- Talking and listening
- Spending time
- Playing games e.g. snakes and ladders, lotto, card games
- Borrow Play a Long Maths Games from Nursery
- Looking at number books
- Singing number rhymes and reciting number poems
- Playing with jigsaws
- Playing dominoes
- Baking or cooking with your child
- Washing up together
- Playing with magnetic or moveable numbers and shapes
- Measuring and comparing
- Matching and sorting
- E.g. matching socks, setting the table, matching pair games
- Sorting games
- Counting in everyday situations e.g. the stairs, fruit in the bowl, cutlery, at the shops, toy items etc
- Play with construction toys eg Lego, Duplo, Mega blocks etc

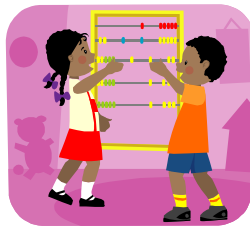


- Give your child old calendars and diaries
- Use dot to dot books
- Use colouring books with numbers
- Use magnetic or bath toy numbers
- Use your computer to look on line for some interactive maths games

Start with numbers which are important and relevant to your child:

- His/her age
- Your house number
- Your telephone number

Have Fun!



For further information, or ideas, please contact your Nursery staff or Tricia Di Duca (Home Link Teacher)