

Sound and District Primary School



Activities to support your child's understanding of

MATHS

This booklet provides a range of activities that could support your child's understanding of maths. You could ask children questions and help them to observe and develop their understanding of mathematical concepts either at home or out and about!

Within maths, there are two Early Learning Goals - Number and Shape, Space and Measures. The table below outlines the end of Reception year expectations for maths:

Mathematics	
<i>Numbers</i>	<i>Children count reliably with numbers from one to 20, place them in order and say which number is one more or one less than a given number. Using quantities and objects, they add and subtract two single-digit numbers and count on or back to find the answer. They solve problems, including doubling, halving and sharing.</i>
<i>Shape, Space and Measure</i>	<i>Children use everyday language to talk about size, weight, capacity, position, distance, time and money to compare quantities and objects and to solve problems. They recognise, create and describe patterns. They explore characteristics of everyday objects and shapes and use mathematical language to describe them.</i>



In the street

- Recognise bus numbers
- Number plate hunt. Who can find a 7?
- Comparing door numbers - talk about odd and even numbers
- Counting things on journeys - e.g. how many red cars can you see? How many lampposts?

Doing the washing

- Counting in 2s - matching socks
- Sorting items by colour and size.
- Matching/pairing up socks. Talk about patterns.
- Find four shoes that are different sizes. Can children put these in order?



Time

- What day is it today? What day will it be tomorrow? What day was it yesterday? Learning days of the week.
- Use timers, phones and clocks to measure short periods of time. Time one minute with your child - how many times can they complete activities in this time? For example, how many times can they write their name in one minute? How many times can they throw and catch a ball in the jar?
- Recognising numbers on the clock. If you cover a number, what number was missing?

Food!



Cooking offers wonderful opportunities to develop mathematical understanding.

- Can you cut your toast into 4 pieces? Discuss halves and quarters.
- 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 - discuss measurements and concepts.
- Setting the timer.
- Counting - counting out ingredients. E.g. adding toppings on cakes.

Going shopping

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



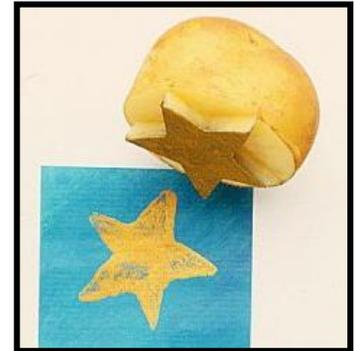
Measuring

- Are you taller than a ...?
- Marking height on the wall.
- Cut hand shapes out of paper. How many hands long is the sofa? How long is the table? Which is longer?
- Who has the biggest hands in our family?
- 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 ...
- Make a collection of 3-D shapes (e.g. from the kitchen cupboards)



Playdough

Here is a recipe that you could use to make playdough:

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 sauce pan, and 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.



Then you could:

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

Games

- Jigsaws (you can make your own by cutting up a magazine picture)
- Dominoes
- Snap (matching pairs) or Happy Families (collect 4 of a kind)
- Snakes and ladders or other simple dice games.
- Adding numbers on dice.
- Bingo, with numbers or shapes
- Hopscotch
- Battleships (simple co-ordinates)



Number rhymes and songs

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 ...



Number songs are a great way for children to develop number and counting skills (counting up and backwards).

Other number songs include:

- 10 green bottles...
- 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, once I caught a fish alive...
- 5 little men in a flying saucer...
- 5 little speckled frogs...

Internet maths games:

Please use the following links to play maths games at home.

www.mathszone.co.uk

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks1/maths/>

http://www.familylearning.org.uk/online_math_games.html

