

# 3 easy and fun activities to help your child DEVELOP THEIR MATHS SKILLS



## LEARNING TO COUNT

This week we are going to look at math skills. Some people fear maths, others love it, but the truth is that maths is everywhere and it is a very important subject and having good maths skills early on will help a child in many things in life. When we talk about early maths, we can do a lot to help a child to grasp those concepts. Early maths includes counting, number recognition, shape recognition, understanding of such concepts as more/ less, basic addition and subtraction. So, what can we do if we have no background in maths teaching, but we want to help our children to develop those skills? The answer is that we can do a lot and we don't even realise it! As maths really is everywhere, we are going to show you how you can support your child with no qualifications or a special equipment, just by using everyday objects.



## 1. Make counting a routine and make it fun!

Count everything around you 😊 count your child's fingers and toes, count the steps when walking up to your room, count your ears and teeth and teddy bears on your child's bed- anything that you can think of! Play games with your child such as: bring me 5 blocks, I would like 7 grapes please, let's see how many dolls do you have etc. Make it fun and interesting but use it every day. This way this will become a habit for your child and they will get used to counting themselves.

## 2. Play a fun movement game with counting

. You can have 2 big dice made out of boxes. Put dots on one and some actions on the other. Ask your child to roll both dice and make the action the same amount of times as the amount of dots. So for example 4 jumping jacks, 5 squats, 3 claps etc. They are learning how to count not even realising it and also practicing their gross motor skills!



### 3. Go for a scavenger hunt.

Give your child a bucket or a basket and a scavenger hunt card. Put some objects on the card such as leaves, stones, sticks, flowers, shells, acorns, pine cones, feathers etc- whatever you can think of that you know it is in your area. Mark the amounts beside each object and ask your child to collect them all! It is such an easy and fun activity that allows your child to practice their maths skills but also they get to spend time in nature, nurturing their sensory needs, developing their gross motor skills and their observation skills as well!

