

# Helping your child to learn Maths at home



## 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 is it today, yesterday, 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?

## Number rhymes and songs

*E.g.: 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!

## 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?



- Can you make shapes/ patterns out of the knives and forks? Can you put them in the right place in the drawers?
- 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?



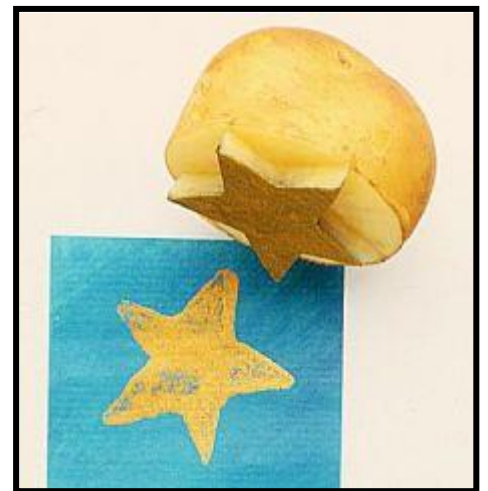
### Measuring

- Are you taller than a ...?
- Marking height on the wall.
- 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 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 ...



### Playdough

Here's 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 and heat slowly, stirring all the time until it forms a ball. Keep it wrapped in clingfilm or in a covered tub to stop it drying out.*



Then ....

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



### Games

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



### Internet maths games:

[www.mathszone.co.uk](http://www.mathszone.co.uk)

<http://uk.ixl.com/math/reception>

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

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

