

Supporting Mathematics at Home

Number

- Identify bus numbers
- Go on a car number plate hunt. Can you find a 7?
- Compare door numbers
- Count items - how many lampposts are there on the way to school?



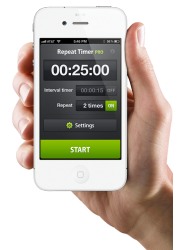
Shape, space and measure

- Sort washing by colour and size
- Match/pair socks
- Find three shoes that are different sizes. Can you put them in order?



Time

- What day is it today/tomorrow?
- Use timers, phones and clocks to measure short periods of time
- Count down 10-0 or 20-0 to get to the table/ into bed etc.
- Recognise numbers on a clock



Food

- Can you cut your toast into 4 pieces? Can you cut it into triangles?
- Set the table. Count the right number of plates etc. How many more are needed?
- Can you make shapes/ patterns using knives and forks? Can you put them in the right place in the drawers?
- Measure and count ingredients when cooking
- Set a timer
- Positional language at dinner time e.g. What is on the rice? Where are the carrots?



Shopping

- Read price tags
- Count items into a basket
- Identify and count coins
- Compare weight, use language such as heavier/lighter
- Find 3D shapes, such as cereal packets (cuboids)



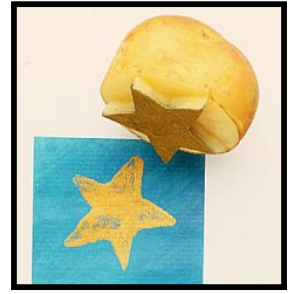
Measuring

- Mark heights on a wall chart
- Cut hand shapes out of paper. How many hands long is the couch? How long is the table? Which is longer?
- How many steps does it take to get from the gate to the front door?



Shapes

- Cut a potato into shapes (e.g. circles, triangles). Use with paint to make pictures and patterns.
- Cut out shapes from coloured paper/ newspaper and arrange into pictures.
- Go on a shape hunt. Can you find a square in your house (e.g. a window)?



Play dough

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 cling film 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

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



Number rhymes and songs

- Sing a range of 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 ...*

