

count · play · explore

Early math activities for you and your child to enjoy together.

Babies Count - Count your baby's toys as you put them away. "One rattle, one teddy bear, that's two toys put back where they belong."

Toddlers Count - Count with your child. Say, "You have three socks. Let's count them – one, two, three. If I give you one more sock you will have four."

Preschoolers Count - Ask your child how many toys they can pick up in 30 seconds. Set a timer for 30 seconds, count what's picked up, and talk about whether your child picked up more or less than they thought they could.

Kindergarteners Count - Walk with your child, count your steps and notice how far each of you traveled with the same number of steps. Is there a difference in the distance each of you traveled? Talk about possible reasons why.

Grade School Kids Count - Practice skip counting by 2s, 4s, 5s, or 10s to the number 60. Which skip counting number gets to 60 quickest? Why do you think so?

Babies Play - Give your baby two different toys to hold or touch. Talk about how the toys are similar. Are they soft, colorful, wooden, fluffy, hard, noisy, etc.?

Toddlers Play - Show your toddler five objects. Hide them in different locations. Ask your child to find the objects. Count them together to make sure all five were found.

Preschoolers Play - Draw some shapes. Tell your child the shapes' name, talk about the shapes, and have fun deciding what the shapes could become; a circle pizza, a rectangle robot. Use crayons or markers to transform the shapes into something new.

Kindergarteners Play - Play a board game that requires players to roll a dice and count their moves. Great practice for counting, recognizing numbers, and taking turns!

Grade School Kids Play - Build a structure with sticks, boxes, or blocks. Encourage your child to start again when their structure falls down. Ask your child to explain what they think is important for building a strong and tall structure.

Babies Explore - Give your baby containers to play with during bath time. Fill and pour. Talk about full and empty containers.

Toddlers Explore - Let your toddler play with different size containers. Which one is larger? Explore arranging the different containers from smallest to largest.

Preschoolers Explore - Laundry time? Have your child explore sorting the laundry by color, size, type of clothing, person the clothing belongs to, or by pairing socks.

Kindergarteners Explore - Give your child some yarn and ask them to make different shapes with it. How many shapes can they make? Ask them to say the shape names?

Grade School Kids Explore - Explore the meaning of the equal sign. What does it mean? The quantity on one side of the sign must be the same as the quantity on the other side of the sign. $19 = 12 + 7$ and $9 + 2 = 5 + 6$ These are equal!

