

Primary 1 - Emergent Numeracy Baseline Supports



These are some suggested activities to improve your child's number skills.

1. Sorting

What is this? The ability to recognise when things are the same or different and organising them accordingly.

How to develop it?

Choose some objects from your house and order them by size or by colour.

-Help to match up your family's socks.

-Toys, Buttons, Mixture of Pasta shapes. Anything you can sort and order.

The discussion doing this together also helps with their mathematical language development

Interactive Online Game: <https://pbskids.org/sid/games/sorting-box>

Sorting and Matching Game Ideas:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4EFLtiMTmk>

2. Reciting Numbers

What is it? The ability to orally recall numbers in sequence forwards and backwards from any place within a number line.

How to develop it?

Practise counting as high as you can. Can you add one number on each day?

Number Song: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7D4K9oi7oBM>

Once children can count reliably their knowledge of the number sequence can be extended to count both forwards and backwards, from any given number.

Aim 0-5 first then 0-10 and so on.

There are many stories and rhymes which involve reciting numbers forwards and backwards. See our additional pages on these areas for suggestions.

3. Recognising Numerals

What is this? The ability to link the visual representation to the physical or oral name.

How to develop this?

Go out for a walk and see if you can spot some numbers (car number plates, house numbers, road signs...)

-Can you search around your house for some numbers (tv remote, clocks, newspapers...)

4. Ordering Numbers

What is this? The ability to build on reciting numbers in order is ordering numbers using a pencil and paper or visual cards.

How to develop this?

Interactive Online Game:

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/ordering-and-sequencing/caterpillar-ordering>

Place numbers on toys and get them in order 0-10

Use playing cards to order the numbers

Challenge them from 10 back to 0 and then increase the number.

5. One to One Correspondence

What is this?

When children begin to recognize, match, and count objects, they are learning one to one correspondence. Simply put, they are counting sets of matching elements. Each object in front of them will have a matching number; each cookie has a number, each piece of candy has a number, and each person in the room has a number.

How to develop it?

-Use objects that are fun and colourful. Using things like blocks, pasta, and small balls work well. Using books with colourful and numbered patterns are always a good choice as well.

-Line the objects in a row close together and count them as you set them in place. Ask your child to place a finger on each one and count them down the row.

-Touch is important for understanding.

-So point or move each object as you count them.

-Use colourful objects and say, one blue block, two yellow blocks, etc.

-Once they count them down the row mix them up and have them start from the beginning once again. This is to assure they understand and that they haven't memorized an order of sequence.

-Setting the table with a specific number of knives, forks and cups that correspond to the number of places that need to be set.

-Asking children questions such as, "How will you keep track of which ones you've counted and those you haven't counted?"

6. Cardinal Number

What is this? Cardinal number is the number denoting quantity (one, two, three, etc.), as opposed to an ordinal number (first, second, third, etc.).

How to develop this?

- Count a group of objects then move them to the side. Ask 'How many there are?'
- Emphasise the last number word, and repeat the last number word. For example, an adult might count a picture of five cookies by saying, "One, two, three, four, f-i-v-e (in a higher pitch)—see five cookies" (repeating the total).

7. Representing Numerals

What is this?

Understanding that a group of objects are represented by a numeral and learning to match the correct numeral to the correct number of objects visually and orally.

How to develop this?

- Adult to show child a number card and ask them to count out that number of buttons, sweets, pieces of lego etc.
- Muddle up a set of playing cards and when you count out some objects get them to find the correct card.

8. Subitising

What is this?

Subitising is defined by the ability to instantaneously recognise the number of objects in a small group without the need to count them.

How to develop this?

- Dice – aim to immediately recognise the number of dots without having to count each one individually.
- Interactive Online
Game: <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/learning-to-count/ladybird-spots>
- Play a game using a dice.
 - Play dominos.
 - Make various patterns of dots on paper and ask how many?
 - Get a handful of beads or buttons (0-10) scatter them on the floor and discuss quick strategies to count these. E.g, in twos

9. Forming Numerals

What is this? The ability to form the numeral themselves.

How to develop this?

Use the number rhymes shared on SeeSaw to practise forming each number correctly.

-Practise writing some numbers using chalk, paint, shaving foam, water on the paving stones with a paint brush. Big surfaces first and move to smaller formation just like our fine motor skills.

-Can you make some numbers using pasta, blocks, stones?

-Can you draw some numbers using a toy car?

10. One More

What is this? The ability to count forward from any number in the number line and explain what number is next if we add one more without counting from zero.

How to develop this?

Draw a number line using chalk and ask your child 'What comes **after** 5, after 6 etc)

Song for Kids: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Du6JHupzwVo>

-When playing board games (e.g. snakes and ladders) encourage your child to say the number next to where they have landed.

11. One Less

What is this? The ability to count backwards from any number in the number line and explain what number is next if we have one less .

How to develop this?

Song for Kids: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5Dd4tt-ICxI>

-When playing board games (e.g. snakes and ladders) encourage your child to say the number before where they have landed.

12. Combining Sets Together

What is this? The ability to count two groups of objects and know 'altogether' means 'How many in total?'

How to develop this?

Practise counting two sets of objects (sweets, toys, pencils) and say how many there are altogether.

Primary 1- Mathematical Awareness

These are suggested activities to improve your child's mathematical knowledge.

1. Recognising and Identifying 2D shape

How to develop it?

Go on a shape hunt in your house or outside and see if you can find a circle, square, triangle or a rectangle.

Interactive Online Game: <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/early-years/shape-monsters>

-Can you make a shapes monster using a circle, square, triangle and a rectangle?

-Song: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WTeqUeif3D0>

2. Recognising and Identifying 3D shape

How to develop it?

-Go on a shape hunt in your house or outside and see if you can find a cylinder, cube, sphere or a cone?

Interactive Online Game: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zjv39j6/articles/zcsjqty>

Song: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=guNdJ5MtX1A>

3. Copy, Continue and Create a Pattern

How to develop it?

Interactive Online

Game: <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/ordering-and-sequencing/shape-patterns>

-Using pieces of Lego can you make a pattern using 2 different colours?

4. Representing Relationships

How to develop it?

-Draw a number line outside using chalk- ask your child to fill in the missing numbers.

-Use number cards to create your own number line.