

Mathematical Play

When I am engaged in mathematical play I am learning to:

- Experiment with mathematical marks and symbols
- Use number language and names
- Show curiosity about numbers and shapes
- Match numbers and quantities correctly
- Recognise numerals and count beyond 10
- Estimate and count repeated sets
- Make comparisons between quantities, add and take away
- Separate groups in different ways and add groups
- Use own methods to work through a problem,
- Notice and talk about shapes and patterns in the environment
- Categorize objects according to shape/size
- Use positional language
- Order items by height, length, weight
- Order and sequence, use mathematical language



What will I use?

Maths games, compare bears, puzzles, counting bugs, wiggly worms, 2D and 3D shapes, measuring tapes, magnetic numbers, gel numbers, outdoor maths kit, washing line, number line, numberline caterpillars, number stepping stones, weighing scales, big dice, number skittles, giant Jenga, dice, pebbles, matching games, number bean bags, abacus, pens and paper, beads, buttons, cotton reels, number song bag, wipeboards, pictorial timeline, water and sand capacity equipment, containers, water tray, threading, Numicon and resources, beads, number cards, post boxes

What will I do?

Explore and experience colour, shape, size,
Quantity, number and pattern indoors and outside. Fill and empty containers
Sorting and matching activities. Notice and create/continue patterns
Listen to number names and practise counting
Respond to number rhymes
Thread beads and cotton reels.
Learn about position
Posting activities
Complete puzzles
Make up number stories

What will the adult do?

Model counting-forwards and backwards. Introduce and use mathematical vocabulary, colour, size, shape,
Question sensitively: 'is it bigger or smaller? Are you making a pattern?'
Model positional language and days of week. Help with counting
Point out numbers and shapes in the environment. Model mathematical recording e.g tallying, writing numbers.
Tell number stories

What will the area look like?

Accessible, photo-labelled drawers. Number kit in shed. Games/activities laid out relevant to the week
Games and puzzles accessible for own choice
Numberline 1-20 on display, with resources allowing for further counting. Numicon numberline on display
Special helper counting children. Daily counting and number songs. Number song bag at carpet time