

Playing games to enhance numeracy skills

Many traditional games are ideal ways of increasing the children's numeracy skills.



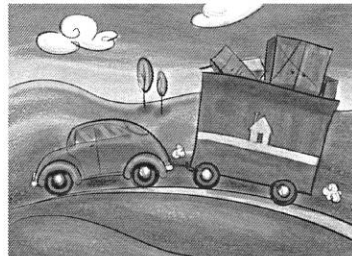
1. Playing snakes and ladders encourages the children to count accurately, as they move the counter along the board. It will also help them to recognise larger numbers within 100.
2. Ludo is another game that will encourage the children to count accurately and to add two numbers together in some instances, when throwing a 6 and another number.
3. Dominoes are very useful for counting and matching two numbers together.
4. The 'pairs' game, using a traditional pack of cards will help the children to match two cards together with the same number and will also aid their memory skills.
5. 'Rummy', using the same pack of cards, will help the children to sequence a series of numbers together.
6. 'Snap', will also help to sharpen the children's thinking skills and will enable them to match two cards of the same number together.

Car journeys

Car journeys are an ideal opportunity to develop numeracy skills.



1. They can count how many lorries they can see on the motorway, or how many red cars pass by.
2. They can look at car number plates, beginning with, for example 51 and then locate another with 52 and so on.
3. As they begin to work with larger numbers, they will be able to tell you how far it is to your destination on the motorway, as they read the signs
4. You can make up problems from number plates eg the number plate is RV52 WN7. You could say I get the answer 14. How did I get it? Adding $5 + 2 + 7 = 14$. Or I get the answer 17 how did I get it? $5 \times 2 = 10 + 7 = 17$ etc



MANOR FARM COMMUNITY INFANT SCHOOL

Learning Maths Through Play



'Together we grow'

Maths

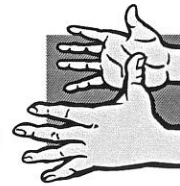
The home environment is the ideal surrounding to develop children's knowledge in the area of mathematics. Young children love to explore and parents, grandparents and other familiar adults, are in the unique position to help them develop in a wide variety of different ways, using every day objects and situations. Detailed below are some examples of how children's learning can be enhanced in a setting outside of the school day.

SHAPE



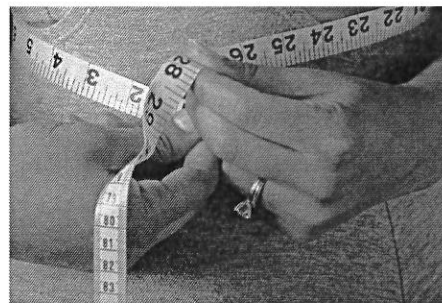
1. Children can be encouraged to count how many windows there are in the home. How many square windows can you see? How many rectangles can you find? They can locate other shapes around the home, for example, a tissue box is shaped like a cuboid and a tin of baked beans is in a tin shaped like a cylinder.
2. Construction kits are another useful way of involving shapes in play. For example how many different sized cubes or cuboids can you make with your lego? Can you build a tower with the lego?
3. Objects such as empty kitchen rolls can be used to demonstrate how cylinders roll.
4. When on an outing, shapes can be explored in the same way in the environment too, in a way that is fun, rather than being seen as an academic exercise.

MEASUREMENT



Before children use formal measurements, they use their hand spans, or foot steps to make their measurements.

1. If you are measuring the length of an object, or a piece of material, they can be involved too, by giving you the measurement in these arbitrary forms.
2. As the children enter year two, they learn to measure accurately with a centimetre ruler and use metres. To give them a problem solving activity encouraging a more accurate measurement can be very meaningful.
3. When cooking, children can be involved in helping you to weigh out the ingredients.
4. When cutting a cake, for example, use the terminology of **whole, half, quarter** as you cut it.
5. When measuring give them an opportunity to estimate 'sensible guess' the measurement before they use standard or non standard measures.



MONEY



There are many opportunities for children to develop their understanding and use of money.

1. Children love to set up a shopping scene and this is an ideal way to be involved with buying and selling simple objects using 1p and 2p coins to begin with, progressing to the larger denominations, as they are able. They can make up their own prices for their toys, for example, or for some of the tins of food in the cupboard.
2. Visits to the supermarket can become more fun, by involving the children in locating items on the shelves and to ask them to look at the prices for you. They might even be able to find you some special offers! They could count the items that are to be purchased as they are put on the conveyor belt at the checkout. As they become more proficient in their understanding of money, they might be able to tell you how much has been spent, when the bill has been produced.

