

VIRTUAL CHILDCARE PARENT SUPPORT SERVICES

VOLUME #143 BOOSTING NUMBER SENSE AND NUMERATION

HELLO PARENTS,

Number sense and numeration refers to your child's fluidity and flexibility with numbers. Your child will begin to make sense of their world using numbers. Children begin by counting 1, 2, 3 and progress to quickly using mental math, determining quantity, and recognizing number patterns. Eventually, your child will calculate equations by adding, subtracting, dividing, and multiplying numbers. Your child will use numbers each day of their lives; whether comparing prices of goods at a store, measuring objects, or even while cooking. This newsletter will provide activities that boost your child's number sense and numeration skills.

ACTIVITIES INFANTS (3 -18 MONTHS)

STACK AND COUNT

MATERIALS:

 Stackable household items. For example: Tupperware, tissue boxes, blocks, etc.

DIRECTIONS:

- Begin to stack the materials.
- Encourage your infant to stack with you.
- As you are stacking, count the materials aloud and slowly.
- <u>Click here</u> to read "The Birthday Counting Book" by Jade Maitre.

TODDLERS (19 MONTHS – 2.5 YEARS)

HOW MANY FISH ARE IN MY AQUARIUM?

MATERIALS:

- Large bin
- Water
- Paper
- Markers
- Scissors
- Ziploc bags
- Optional: sea animal toys

DIRECTIONS:

- Cut ten medium-sized fish from construction paper.
- On each fish, write a number from one to ten.
- Put each fish inside a Ziploc bag and close it.
- Fill the large bin with water, and place the fish inside. If you have sea animal toys put them inside the bin as well.
- Encourage your child to find the fish, and take them out of the bin.
- Count the fish with your child one by one as you are taking them out of the bin.

<u>Click here</u> to listen to "Once I Caught a Fish Alive".

PRESCHOOLERS (2.5 – 5 YEARS)

COUNTING FLOWER PETALS

MATERIALS:

- Coloured construction paper
- White paper
- Markers
- Scissors
- Tape

DIRECTIONS:

- Draw 5 green stems and the centre of the flower on each stem.
- Randomly number each flower, 1-5.
- Cut 20 flower petals from the construction paper.
- Ask your child the number of each flower, then have them tape that number of petals on the flower. For example, if the flower is numbered 3, your child should tape 3 petals.
- Repeat this for each flower that you drew.

<u>Click here</u> for more activities.

JK/SK (4 - 6 YEARS)

NUMBER SENSE PUZZLE

MATERIALS:

- 10 pieces of paper
- Markers
- Scissors

DIRECTIONS:

- On each paper, draw a four-piece puzzle. <u>Click here</u> for an example.
- On the first four-piece puzzle, draw four different representations of number one on each puzzle piece. For example, you may write the number "1", the word "one", one dot, and a picture of one dog.
- Repeat this process for all other puzzles, using different numbers. For example: number 2.
- Once finished, mix the papers together and place them face-side up on a table.
- Encourage your child to finish the puzzles by finding the correct representations for each number.

Click here to play stacking to 100.

SCHOOL-AGERS (6 - 12 YEARS)

DIY SUDOKU

- MATERIALS:
- Paper
- Pencil
- Ruler

DIRECTIONS:

- <u>Click here</u> to print two Sudoku templates, or use the template for reference to make your own.
- <u>Click here</u> to learn the Sudoku rules.
- After reading the rules, create the puzzle solution on your first Sudoku template. Remember, each row, column, and grid must contain the numbers one through nine without duplicates.
- On the second template, create your Sudoku with blank spaces by using your solution paper as reference.
- Once finished, give your Sudoku puzzle to a sibling, parent, or friend for them to complete.

Click here to learn how to play math Bingo.



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A TIP FOR TODAY

- Sing songs and tell rhymes about numbers to your child.
- Point out and name the numbers that you see. For example: address numbers on a house.
- While your child is stacking, ask them: "How many blocks do you need to make the tower really high?"