

Shape

You could take your child on a 'shape walk' around Longley Park to see what shapes they can spot. Draw their attention to shapes and colours that you see together. You could talk to the children about the number of sides the shape has and how many corners. You could also talk about the similarities and differences between different shapes.

2D: *rectangle, square, circle, triangle*

Money

Receiving (and spending!) pocket money can make children very keen learners in this area! Use any shopping trips or play shop to encourage your child to be able to:

- *Recognise 1p, 2p, 5p 10p coins*

Time

In foundation stage the children need to be able to sequence events in the correct order and begin to remember the days of the week and months of the year. Songs and rhymes are a really good way of remembering these!

Measures

Get your child to help with the washing up! This is a great way of encouraging them to compare different containers for capacity. Encourage them to use comparative language like big, little, heavy, light. Challenge them to order their teddies from the biggest to the smallest, or the tallest to the shortest!

Use positional language such as in front of, next to, underneath. A game of hide the teddy is great for this.

Helping your child with maths in Reception

This leaflet is to give you some ideas about how you can support your child's learning in maths in small, fun, practical ways at home this year.

Children's numeracy skills can be greatly boosted by help at home, in the same way that regular help with spelling and reading can nurture their literacy skills. Parents are often nervous to help in maths however, worried they may confuse their child by teaching them 'different' methods ("we didn't do it like this in my day...!"). At Pathways Academy, we aim to teach children to work with number in lots of different ways. We know that what works for one child will not always make sense to another and that by giving them a range of different methods, they will be well equipped to select one which works for them. So please, be encouraged to talk about maths with your child, you never know, they may even teach you a new thing or two!

Number

Helping your child to develop their knowledge of number will benefit them enormously. Pointing out numbers around them so that they are able to recognise numerals will help them when they begin to record maths formally later on in their development. Having a knowledge of what number means e.g. number 2 means 2 ducks, 2 cows, 2 chips etc and being able to count by rote to 10 then 20 will also help them.

Challenge them to count how many spoons are in the cutlery drawer or how many cars they see on the way to school. Can they show you that many fingers?

When they are able to do this, look at adding 1 more and taking 1 away. Can they say the number that comes after 13? Can they say the number that comes before?

Puzzles are a great way to encourage the children to look at irregular shapes.

It also helps with their spatial awareness and fine motor skills too!

Above all the most important thing to do is to make it

fun

Number songs and Rhymes are a great way of learning and using numbers. Some of our favourites are:

5 Current Buns

5 Little Ducks

*5 Little Monkeys
Jumping On The Bed*

5 Little Space Men

*5 Little Speckled
Frogs*

1 Man and his Dog

Number work at home

Children's number skills can be supported in all sorts of fun ways at home. Board games such as snakes and ladders are a great way of making them familiar with the number system and simple addition and subtraction.

'Every day maths'

An important part of children's learning in maths involves applying their skills to everyday problems and situations. Encouraging them to practise their maths skills in daily life will benefit them.

E.g.

Matching pairs of socks and shoes encourages them to use mathematical language.

Useful websites

www.happychild.org.uk/wks/math/key1

www.topmarks.co.uk

www.bbc.co.uk/schools/ks1bitesize/numeracy

ictgames

crickweb

www.mathletics.co.uk