

Handy guide to maths for parents of children aged 3-4 years



“What I like”

- *Using real objects*
- *Helping you out with everyday jobs*
- *Trying out new ideas*

“What I can do”

- *Say some numbers in the right order*
- *Count to three*
- *Start to recognise shapes and describe them*

“How you can help me”

- Sing counting songs and rhymes such as ‘Ten Green Bottles’ and count it out on fingers
- Use recycled materials such as empty boxes and tubes to explore 3D shapes. Use large boxes that your child can get into.
- Make an obstacle course with your child. Use words such as under, over and through.
- Use containers such as buckets, bags or boxes to move objects. Talk about things being heavier or lighter than each other.
- Read stories like ‘Goldilocks and the Three Bears’ and talk about size such as big, bigger, and biggest.
- Encourage your children to look for numbers when you are out and about, on street signs, cars, buses and houses.
- Play pretend games such as shops, cafes, bus drivers, hairdressers and count things together and use money to pay.
- Play games such as ‘hopscotch’ and ‘what time is it Mr Wolf?’
- Being to introduce adding and taking away such as building towers and knocking them down.

Remember every day brings opportunities!