

**Case study:**  
**Maths Champions**



National Day Nurseries Association

**Name of setting:** Emerald Nursery  
**Date submitted:** 29/11/2017  
**Information supplied by:** Joanne Foster Nursery Manager  
**Title:** Emerald Nursery Case Study

***Key points of your Maths Champions improvements***

The Math's Championship programme has encouraged all participants throughout the 3 age groups to look at all activities provided and try to include maths in each of these consistently.

The overall confidence within the teams to develop and apply maths activities has seen excellent progress.

The teams are now very enthusiastic and positive in mathematical area.

**Background detail**

We are a 95-place setting which is accessed across two sites. Babies 0-2yrs (Blue group) and Toddlers 2-3yrs (Pink group) are situated in a more home environment building we call the 'House.' The pre-school children 3-5 yrs. (Orange group) are situated within children centre close by. We recently were very pleased to receive an outstanding judgement and therefore wished to achieve this high standard within our mathematical development.

Sam in Blue room wanted to develop her confidence and her ability to provide activities for the babies in her care.

Jenny in Pink room wanted to develop her own knowledge and understanding of maths to develop her confidence in providing activities.

Aimee in Orange room wanted to develop maths application for all children in new and existing ways.

**Section 2**

***Highlights and lowlights of the programme so far***

## Highlights

Sam feels more confident and has a better knowledge of how to introduce and incorporate maths in the baby room, the activities provided are more fun and imaginative.

Jenny feels more confident in herself and her abilities to provide maths activities for the children that are engaging and interesting for the children.

Aimee has offered maths activities on a weekly basis for all children and all who joined in showed a great interest and enjoyment of the activities.

## Barriers

Initially there were issues around ability to log into maths champion programme for Blue and Pink room. They also struggled to simplify the activities enough to suit the age and ability of the children, they were advised from the maths champion of the online resource bank that shows some ideas for the younger children.

Orange room found it tricky to access all the resources as Aimee's login expired and she was unable to log in for quite a period.

## ***Impact of the programme***

### Impact on Environment

Blue room have developed their heuristic play area, adding patterns, textures and different sized objects for the children to explore these in play.

Pink room have added more resources to displays and at child height so that the children can see and access shapes, number lines and patterns in the room.

Orange room have added the children's art work and pictures of the children during activities to show their learning and the products of the activities so that the children can talk about what they *have done with other children*.

### Impact on Staff

*Sam (Blue room) is more confident in herself and her ability to provide maths activities to provide activities for her children.*

*Jenny (Pink room) feels that her knowledge and understanding of maths has been boosted by the maths programme and she is personally providing more learning opportunities for children in her age group.*

*Aimee (Orange room) feels she is much happier in her ability to provide more maths learning for all the children in the room not just identified children.*

### Impact on Children's Development

Across the setting a whole all staff have found that the children's development has progressed in all areas and children have been observed to use mathematical language, such as shape names, number names and sizes during their free play. The activities are fun and engaging for children and so have been very popular with many children being involved at all times.

### ***Did you achieve what you wanted from the programme? If so, how?***

All three staff participants personally feel that they have achieved what they individually set out to achieve, Sam found the workshops online to be of great value to her and her own learning. Jenny and Aimee found that the resources available to them online, helped to plan many adult led and child initiated activities for children in the Pink and Orange room.

### ***How has the programme helped you further develop your own practice?***

All three staff unanimously stated that yes, the programme has helped to further their personal practice and each now feels more confident in themselves and their provision for children in the specified age ranges.

### ***Next steps***

Each practitioner has identified a next step for themselves in their room, which they aim to achieve in the near future. Sam wants to develop the other areas of the Blue room's environment, to introduce maths in all areas, such as having number stories and counting rhymes in the cosy corner.

Jenny wants to keep Pink room current with children's interests and incorporate maths into these interests, through planned activities and changes to the environment. She hopes that the prolonged access to the resource bank online will aid her in this.

Aimee plans to have more fun and engaging activities that link to current themes and topics and that are pre-planned with the resources ready to go, she like Jenny plans to use the online resource bank to add accessible resources for the children to use during activities and free play.

#### **National Day Nurseries Association**

National Early Years Enterprise Centre, Longbow Close, Huddersfield, HD2 1GQ.

Tel: +44 (0)1484 40 70 70, Fax: +44(0)1484 40 70 60, Email: [info@ndna.org.uk](mailto:info@ndna.org.uk), Website: [www.ndna.org.uk](http://www.ndna.org.uk), Twitter: @NDNAtalk,

**Published: Date Year**