



Top Tips for Practising

# Maths Skills

(Ages 4 - 5)

# Maths for Ages 4 to 5

There are lots of practical and easy ways that you can encourage your child to practise and develop their maths skills every day.

With children aged four to five, you could work on **numbers and their value**, recognising **shapes**, **subitising** (recognising the number of objects in a group without counting them - like the spots on a domino or dice), **time** (e.g. 'before', 'later', 'now'), **patterns** or **measurement**. These top tips are here to give you some ideas on how you could do this.

This is not a checklist - it is here to guide you and your child in a **fun and beneficial way**.

## Quick Ways to Encourage Maths Development:

Build number recognition by looking for numbers on houses or car number plates while out and about.

Play games with dice or dominoes to practise subitising.

Measure everything! You don't even have to use real measurements like metres or centimetres - you could measure your child's height in hand-spans or measure the rug in footsteps.








Over 2020 and 2021, a new Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum (or framework) was released and has become statutory for all nurseries and reception classes. These guides, though based on some of the milestones laid out by that new framework, are designed as general guidance and not a solid indication of what is taught in a formal school setting.

For more information about the new framework reforms (introduced 2021), you can use these resources:

- [New EYFS Reforms Parent and Carer Information Sheet](#)
- [Development Matters 2021 \(Official Document\)](#)
- [EYFS Statements Summarised](#)

You can also find tips and guidance for other skills or ages in our [Parent Guides](#) category.

<b>Key</b>	
<b>Number Recognition and Value</b>	
<b>Subitising</b>	
<b>Measurement</b>	
<b>Shapes</b>	
<b>Patterns</b>	



Height, Length, Weight, and Capacity  
Songs and Rhymes PowerPoints Pack

Play dice,  
dominoes  
and  
card  
games.

Make  
musical  
patterns using  
claps, stomps, clicks  
or beeps - can your  
child copy, continue  
or make their  
own patterns?



Go on  
a shape  
scavenger hunt - draw  
five shapes (such as  
circle, square, oval, rectangle  
and triangle) on a piece of  
paper and keep a tally of how  
many you see. At the end of  
your hunt you can count  
up to see which  
shape won!

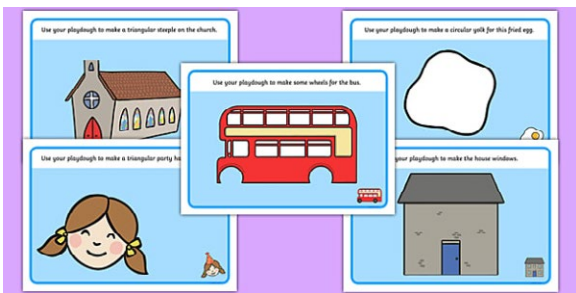
Get in  
the habit of  
counting everyday  
things and pointing to  
each thing as you count  
it, e.g. buttons on your  
shirt, books on a shelf,  
cars parked on  
your street.








Point out  
numbers that you  
see each day, e.g.  
house numbers or  
number plates.

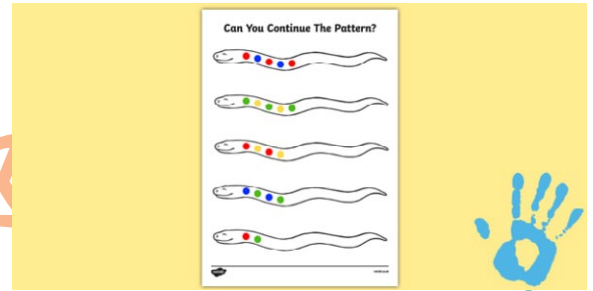


Compare  
the weight and  
height of different  
things using words such  
as 'heavier or lighter than',  
'shorter or taller than',  
'equal to', e.g. 'Daddy is taller  
than the table', 'the bedroom  
doors are the same height',  
'Mummy is shorter  
than the tree'.



2D Shape Playdough Mats

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Two Colour Repeating Pattern Snake Fingerprint Worksheet

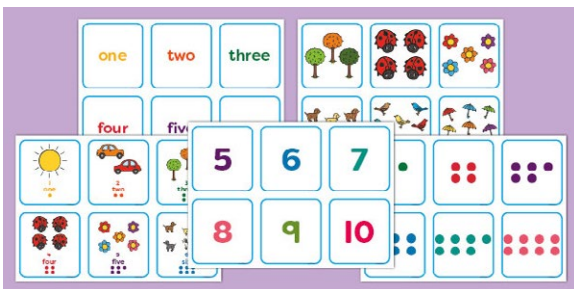
Play with different shaped blocks, discussing the 2D or 3D shapes of each.

Play number memory games - show your child an amount of objects (no more than five) then cover them and ask how many items there were.

Use your child's hand to measure the length or height of things e.g - 'this book is two hands long', 'the window is 10 hands wide', 'the fireplace is 20 hands tall'.

Give your child a group of objects (e.g. pencils) and ask them to give you back a certain amount of them.

Make fruit kebabs using three or more fruits (e.g. strawberries, grapes and oranges), discussing the fruit patterns you are making with your child - can they copy your pattern or make their own?



Let's Count! Picture, Numeral and Word Number Matching Cards