

Primary 1 Maths – How to Help at Home

Number



Identify house numbers and notice the pattern - odd or even?

Play games using dice, dominoes and cards.

Skipping/jumping games – counting in 1s, 2s, 5s and 10s – forwards and backwards.

Looking for number in the environment – buses, number plates, road signs, around the house.

Word puzzles – Jim has 3 sweets, and Granny gives him 2 more. How many does he have now?

Money



Ask your child to sort out your small change and identify the coins.

Let them stick price tags on tins and packets in the kitchen and play shops (keep prices low).

Make coin collections up to 10p using different combinations.

Real experience – let your child have small amounts of money to save and then spend.

Shape

Hunt the flat shape – how many circles, squares... shapes can you see in the room?

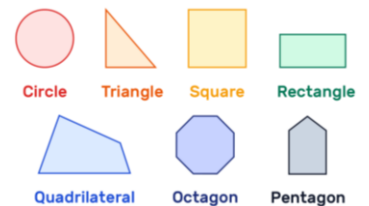
Have fun with shapes when preparing food e.g. making pizza, sandwiches, cakes, etc.

There are many commercial games that encourage picture making using shapes – which shapes fit together?

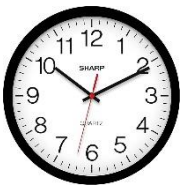
Tile patterns in the home – making mosaics pictures, pattern colouring sheets.

Using construction sets and building bricks to learn about shape through play.

Cutting and gluing, making and doing – being creative with shape!



Time



Use a sand timer or egg timer to time simple tasks, like setting the table or getting dressed. This will help your child to develop an awareness of time.

Use vocabulary to describe the passage of time (*before/after, today/tomorrow/yesterday*).

Talk about and sequence the days of the week and the months of the year in relation to the seasons.

Problem Solving

Help your child to develop strategies e.g., for tricky jigsaws and board games.

Challenge by asking questions so your child learns to articulate their thinking – “Why do you think...?”

Construction activities such as Lego – encourage your child to follow illustrations for building as well as being freely creative.

Encourage your child to try again if something doesn't work – “What do you think we could try this time?”

Mental Maths

Counting forwards and backwards to 10 then to 20	Counting in 2s, 5s and 10s
Activity counting – “How many skips/jumps can you do while I count to 20?”	Adult counts and stops – “What’s the next number?”
Number cards – embedding the mental number line and order	Lay out cards in sequence, first 0-10 moving on to 0-20
Quick fire activities – find 5, find 9, find 12, find 19...	Number before – number after – number between
I’m thinking of a number:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It’s one more/less than 8 ▪ It’s between 12 and 14 ▪ It’s greater than 10 but less than 12. 	Doubles are your best friends – don’t forget them! e.g. $4+4=8$ Twins facts stick together – when you see one, you see the other! e.g. $2 + 1 = 3$ and $1 + 2 = 3$

Mathematical Language

As a parent, you will undoubtedly use mathematical language many times in everyday conversations with your child:

bigger/smaller	longer/shorter/taller	heavier/lighter
more than/greater than/less than	How much? How many?	before/after
making patterns	buying new clothes and shoes	sorting clothes for washing
setting the table for meals	allowing your child to weigh out ingredients when helping to cook or bake	setting things in order – first, second, third...
days, months, time of day and passage of time.	family birthdays	playing number games e.g., Ludo, Snakes and Ladders, card games, dominoes and dice games.

Maths websites to support learning at Home



Busy Things - <https://www.busythings.co.uk/> - The children sign in with username ‘esmspupil’ and the password ‘esmspupil’. Children can practise Maths topics including number, addition and subtraction, pattern and shape.



Topmarks - [Learning to Count with these fun Counting Games](#) No login is required. Choose a category to practice skills such as counting, ordering, sequencing and explore topics on money, shape and data handling.



IXL - [IXL - Primary 1 maths practice](#) This website allows children to practise the skills relevant to their year group.



ict games - [ictgames - EYFS](#) - No login is required. Here, children can practice key skills in Maths through games.