

Simple, everyday activities to help develop your child's math skills

STANDARD: Counts Numbers

- ☐ **PRACTICE COUNTING** Take turns counting with your child. Count several numbers and have your child continue the count. Try this activity starting at a different number each time, or even try it counting backward.
- ☐ **COUNT BY** Have your child practice counting sets of silverware or crayons by 2s, by 5s, and by 10s. That starts: "2, 4, 6..." or "5, 10, 15..." or "10, 20, 30..."

STANDARD: Adds and Subtracts

- ☐ **ADD AND TAKE AWAY** Use small objects that interest your child. Make a group of two. Count them aloud with your child. "Let's add another. Now how many do we have?" Try adding and taking away different amounts.
- ☐ **HOW MANY IN ALL?** Use stuffed animals, crayons, play figures, or small blocks to act out *addition* stories. Say: "There was one crayon in the box. You are putting two more crayons in. How many crayons are in the box now? Let's count."
- ☐ **TELL HOW MANY ARE LEFT** Use stuffed animals, crayons, play figures, or small blocks to act out *subtraction* stories. Say: "There are three stuffed animals in the bin. You put one on the couch. How many are left in the bin?"

STANDARD: Compares Numbers and Quantities

- ☐ **DECIDE WHO HAS MORE** Use blocks, counters, or other small objects to play a game. Put a set in front of you and a set in front of your child. Without counting, ask your child to tell who has more and who has less. Then count to see if your child's guess was correct.
- ☐ **COMPARE PRICES** When out shopping with your child, talk about the price of things and how they compare. Ask: "Which do you think costs more, the apple or the avocado? The roll of paper towels or the box of cereal?"

STANDARD: Compares and Measures

- ☐ **COMPARE AND MEASURE** Place different-sized objects side by side. Have your child tell which object is longer and which is shorter. Ask: "Which is longer, the envelope or the book?" Then use a ruler or measuring tape and compare the measurements.

STANDARD: Tells Time

- ☐ **USE A CLOCK** Ask your child to tell the time on a digital clock. Begin with time on the hour (such as 11:00). After your child is comfortable with those times, introduce telling time on the half hour (11:30).

STANDARD: Recognizes the Attributes of Shapes

- ☐ **FOCUS ON ONE SHAPE** Cut out a variety of small and large triangles. Point out that all the triangles, no matter their size, have three straight sides and three corners. Invite your child to make art with the triangles. Continue with squares and rectangles.

STANDARD: Uses Appropriate Tools for Measuring

- ☐ **MEASURE IN THE KITCHEN** Ask your child to measure out portions of foods, such as two spoons of jam into a dish or a cup of cereal into a bowl. Try to involve your child in preparing simple foods.

STANDARD: Identifies and Extends Repeating Patterns

- ☐ **FIND WHAT COMES NEXT** Use small items to make a simple color pattern, such as red-blue-green, red-blue-green. Ask your child to continue adding to the pattern. "What color comes next?" Try patterns with shapes, such as triangle-triangle-square, triangle-triangle-square. "What shape comes next?"

STANDARD: Writes Numbers

- ☐ **PRACTICE WRITING NUMBERS** Practice writing numerals 1 to 20. Have your child write numbers on paper without lines and later on paper with lines.

STANDARD: Uses Position Words

- ☐ **USE POSITION WORD CLUES** Hide some objects. Give clues using position words (*under, on, inside, behind, above, and below*). "The toy is behind a chair." Change roles so your child hides the objects and gives the clues.