

Maths Rhymes & Songs

Songs, rhymes and books play a fundamental role in supporting children's mathematical development. Here are a few key rhymes and songs for you to share with your child:

Heads, Shoulders, Knees and Toes

<https://youtu.be/fvEtwhui1k0>

If You're Happy and You Know it

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/watch/something-special-if-youre-happy>

Incy Wincy Spider

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TMfPKUz3hvE>

12345 Once I Caught a Fish Alive

<https://youtu.be/ggZi9DDXMIk>

2 Little Dicky Birds

<https://youtu.be/aplwz06C5DY>

One, Two Buckle my Shoe

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/nursery-rhymes-one-two-buckle-my-shoe/zkvtqp3>



Your child is more likely to join in with a song if it is sung regularly! You may want to focus on one rhyme at a time with your child

Books to promote Maths



Find out more...

What to expect, when?

https://www.foundationyears.org.uk/files/2015/03/4Children_ParentsGuide_2015_WEB.pdf

NRICH Activities for parents and children

<https://nrich.maths.org/14588>

Number Blocks

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/numberblocks?page=2>

Cbeebies Helping your child to be epic at maths

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/grownups/help-your-child-with-maths>

Siren Films: Maths is more than just numbers

<https://www.sirenfilm.co.uk/courses/maths-is-more-than-just-numbers/>

"Mathematical experiences for very young children should build largely upon their play and the natural relationships between learning and life in their daily activities, interests and questions."

Ann-Marie Dibiase. Engaging Young Children in Mathematics: Standards for Early Childhood Mathematics Education



Facebook pages to follow for advice and tips



Start Well Stockport



BBC Tiny Happy People



Number Blocks



STOCKPORT
METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

Building young Mathematicians

A guide for families



Babies and Toddlers

Why is Maths important?

Although we may not see ourselves as 'mathematicians', we as adults use Maths all the time. From weighing out ingredients to sorting out the washing, we are constantly interacting with numbers, shapes and measures in our every day life.

In the Early Years, it is important that we help young children to see the purpose in Maths. You can make a big difference to your child's development by playing with your child and simply by talking about the Maths you use in your day to day routine.



"I need time to repeatedly and freely explore the objects around me. This helps to develop my mathematical brain!"

"I learn best when I am 'doing'. Maths can be active and fun!"



"Maths does not always have to be indoors. I can learn lots when I play and explore outside!"



Maths is everywhere! You will be doing Maths with your child without even realising it!

Some key concepts in Early Years Maths

Shape and Space

Babies and toddlers develop spacial awareness through exploration of their own bodies and objects, and through their varied *physical experiences* in the space around them. You can help your baby and toddler by:

- ✓ Singing action and finger rhymes such as 'round and round the garden and 'heads, shoulders, knees and toes'
- ✓ Building towers and knocking them down! Young children love to place one object on top of another and in turn they will explore different sizes and shapes
- ✓ Providing sorting boards and stacking rings to, for example, sort shapes from smallest to biggest
- ✓ Encouraging young children to crawl, walk and run through and around objects

Pattern awareness

Pattern awareness is the first step to understand that the world works in logical and predictable ways. You can help your baby and toddler by:

- ✓ Exploring patterns in stories, songs and rhymes
- ✓ Talking about patterns you see in your house, on fabric, in the garden and/or local environment
- ✓ Making action and sound patterns together. For example, by clapping and jumping

Counting

Counting is a fundamental skill that children learn in the Early Years. You can help your baby or toddler by:

- ✓ Singing number rhymes and songs
- ✓ Playing counting games such as 'hide and seek'
- ✓ Count objects in your everyday routine

Maths is everywhere!

Maths is all around us and can be part of our everyday routine. You can show them how numbers, size, shape and pattern are important in life during the following daily activities:

Getting changed...



- ☺ Using action words such as 'up' and 'down' when changing your baby's nappy
- ☺ Matching socks and noticing patterns on clothes
- ☺ Discussing the order in which you are getting dressed

In the bath...



- ☺ Count your child's fingers and toes!
- ☺ Sing rhymes such as '5 Little Ducks went Swimming one day'
- ☺ Fill and empty different sized jugs and containers

At the shop...



- ☺ Allow your child to feel the shape and size of different objects
- ☺ Count the food items in the trolley. Use the language of 'more' by encouraging your child to 'get one more' food item

You can help your child with Maths even when walking along the street! Just count the objects you see and look out for signs, shapes and patterns.