

Week 1



Can we sing a number song together everyday this week?

Grown Ups:

Sing number songs as much as possible with your child such as, five little ducks, five cheeky monkeys etc

Week 2



Can we share some sweets together and practice giving each other one sweet or two sweets?

Grown Ups:

Buy some Smarties or Jelly Beans that can be shared out; give your child one sweet and ask them to give you one sweet, do the same for two sweets.

Can you please save some plastic bottles ready for next week?

Week 3



Can we play 'skittles' together everyday and count how many I knock down?

Can we keep a score of how many I knock down?

Grown Ups:

Put a small amount of water into each plastic bottle you have collected, (approximately 5) line them up and use a small ball to roll and try to knock some down. Count with your child how many they have knocked down and keep a score.

Week 4



When we read stories this week, can we talk about the shapes that we see in the pictures?

Grown Ups:

When you read stories to your child, ask them to look at the pictures and talk about what shapes you can see, for example, a house might be a square and a triangle or the wheels on a car or bus in the story are circles.



Can we sort out the socks together when you do the washing?

Grown Ups:

Lay all the socks out and use them to do some sorting;

1. By colour (all the white socks in one pile and all the black socks in another)
2. Matching pairs—talk about the patterns on the socks (stripes or spots for example) and ask child to find the matching one.



Can we have a look in the kitchen together and find things that are big and little? What about in other rooms?

Grown Ups:

Look at items in the kitchen that are big and little and get them out and talk to your child about them. Use big and little spoons, big and little bowls, cups, even food that is big (potato) and small (grapes/peas). Sort them into piles of big and little.

Week 7



Can we count the steps every time we go up or down stairs together this week?

Grown Ups:

Every time you and your child go up or down stairs, count them together. You could even count steps together when walking on flat ground.

Sometimes, if you miss a number out, your child may be able to say the missing number too.

Week 8



When we go out and about this week, can we look for numbers 1,2 and 3 together?

Grown Ups:

Look for numbers in the environment with your child. Point out numbers on the bus, on car registration plates, on house doors, receipts, tickets, signs etc.

Can we also begin to collect empty food boxes, toilet and kitchen roll insides and any empty packaging of different shapes and sizes.

Week 9



At bath time, can you give me some different sized containers to play with?

Can we talk about the different sizes? Can we talk about them being full or empty?

Grown Ups:

Encourage your child to fill containers with water, then tip the water out. Use language of full and empty and talk about 'big' and 'little' containers.

Can you please continue to collect empty packaging ready for next week

Week 10



Can we use the things we have been collecting to do some junk modelling and do some building together?

Grown Ups:

Build models with your child, talk about the shapes of the items you use, are they big or little, tall or short? Talk to your child about where they want to put the different items and use words like in front/behind/above/below/at the side etc



Can we go on a number hunt in our house?

Can we record or 'write down' the numbers we see together?

Grown Ups:

Tell your child you are going to hunt for numbers in your house and you are going to 'write down' any numbers that you see. Look for numbers on telephones/remote controls/ovens/microwaves/books/magazines/barcodes/food packaging. Write the numbers first and ask them to copy them. Sometimes they may be able to write some numbers without any help.



When we are walking, can we guess how many steps it will be to get to a place?

Can we walk together and count our steps to see if we were right?

Grown Ups:

Count steps with your child when you are walking. If you are walking to the bus stop, stop and ask them how many steps they think it will take to get to the bus stop, then walk together counting the steps. Do the same when walking from the car to the front door, or from their bedroom door to the bathroom door, front door to back door etc etc



When we go shopping, can we look for numbers together?

Can we talk about how many things we are putting in the trolley or basket?

Grown Ups:

When you are shopping, draw your child's attention to the prices and the numbers in the shops. Talk about what the numbers mean and which numbers they are. Talk to your child about the amount of things you are buying and show them the numbers of the packets or count each item if possible, for example '4' ice creams in a box or 'lots' of little peas in a bag.



When we are playing together, can we practice sharing things out so that we have the same number of things?

Grown Ups:

When you are playing with your child, work together to share the lego/duplo/trains/animals/figures/dolls so that you have the same amount each. Draw attention to the fact that you have the 'same' and count them. Sometimes, your child may be able to give each one the 'same' independently.



When we go on a shape hunt in our house together, and look for things that are circles, squares, triangles and rectangles?

Grown Ups:

Look for shapes with your child, you might want to do one room a day? Ask them if they can see any shapes and point out shapes to them too. For example, a clock is a circle or the TV is a rectangle, a cushion might be a square or a sandwich might be a triangle. Are they big shapes or little shapes? Talk about the shapes using words like 'round' or 'tall', for example.



This week, can we count wheels?
Whenever we see something that has wheels, can we count them?

Grown Ups:

Count wheels with your child as much as possible. Ask your child to look out for things that have wheels and then count them. You might see wheels on toy pushchairs or toy cars/lorries. You might see wheels on real cars, vans, trolleys, pushchairs, buses etc Sometimes, your child may be able to count the wheels on their own, saying one number name for each wheel.

Week 17



When we go shopping together, can you let me feel the weight of the things we are buying?

Can we talk about whether the things are heavy or light?

Grown Ups:

Let your child feel the items you are buying in the shops (as long as it is safe for them.)

Talk about the weight of the items, for example a bag of sugar and a packet of crisps. As they get used to feeling the weight of the items, ask your child to predict whether an item will be heavy or light before they feel it.

Week 18



Can we look for numbers when we read magazines or newspapers together this week?

When we see a number (1-10) can we hold up that many fingers?

Grown Ups:

Select a suitable magazine or newspaper, and look for numbers with your child. See if they can point out any numbers to you, and point out numbers to them (1-10). When you find a number together, work together to hold up the correct amount of fingers to match the number you have found. For example, if you see a number '3', can you hold up 3 fingers?



Can we sing a number song together every day?

Can we talk about how many there is, and hold our fingers up to represent each thing?

Grown Ups:

Sing number songs together as much as possible, and draw your child's attention to the numbers in the song. For example, if you sing 5 little ducks, use your fingers to represent the 5 ducks. Talk about taking one away when it is then 4 little ducks, then 3, then 2, then 1.



Can we go outside and collect some different sized twigs together?

Can we sort them into long and short twigs and count them?

Grown Ups:

Collect twigs of different lengths and talk about this whilst you are collecting them. Bring them back and sort them into piles of 'short' and 'long' together. Count how many twigs are short and how many are long, you could even count how many you have all together. Sometimes children may be able to sort three different sized twigs into size order.

Week 21



When we go out this week, can we look for shapes?

Can we look for circles, triangles, squares and rectangles in the environment?

Grown Ups:

Look for shapes in the environment with your child. Ask them if they can see any shapes, and point out shapes to them. You could see shapes on road signs, shop signs and shop windows, in the supermarket, shapes on cars and vehicles such as wheels and windows etc. You could ask your child how they know they know what the shape is and talk about how many corners or sides each shape might have.

Week 22



Can we practice counting things this week?

What things can be counted?

Grown Ups:

Help your child to understand that physical things can be counted, but also hops, jumps, claps etc (things that you cannot see)

Ask your child to find things that you can count together and practice counting, saying one number name in sequence for each thing. Sometimes your child may be able to do some counting independently.



Can we play 'shape hide and seek'
together this week?

Can we count to ten before going to
find a shape?

Can we count to twenty?

Grown Ups:

Play shape hide and seek with your child, similar to traditional hide and seek but both explain that you are both on the same team and you both will hide and count to 10 or 20, then will both try and find a circle/square/rectangle/triangle (in the room you are in together), the fastest.



When we are getting dressed this week,
can we count how many arms and legs,
fingers and toes I have?

Can we count how many buttons or
press-studs are on my clothes as we
fasten them too?

Grown Ups:

Count with your child as they are putting their legs into trousers or tights, arms into tops or jackets. Count as you do each button up on their cardigan or coat. When they are familiar with this, sometimes some children may be able to count on their own.



When we read stories this week, can we talk about the shapes we can see in the pictures?

Can you ask me to show you circles, squares, rectangles and triangles in the pictures?

Grown Ups:

Use the illustrations/pictures in books that your child enjoys to look for shapes. For example, Mickey Mouse's ears are circles, a car has round wheels, a dinosaur may have triangular spikes etc.



Grown Ups: