

Math and Play

Children naturally explore and practice math skills as they play.



BE PLAYFUL & CURIOUS

Act as play partners and curious onlookers. Children are more likely to learn math concepts when taught in a playful way.



TRY THIS!

What activities do you like to do with your child? How can you add math in a more playful way? While stacking cups, count or sort the cups by size. Talk about spatial concepts as you hide a toy *under* or *behind* a cup.

FOSTER EXPLORATION

Make space and time for children to be active explorers. Children learn more when they are hands on, compared to just listening or memorizing concepts.



TRY THIS!

Instead of repeating math concepts like one plus one equals two, ask a child to show you. "You have one red crayon. How many more crayons do you need to make two?"

FOLLOW THEIR LEAD

Play changes and children engage in math in new ways as they grow. Follow a child's lead and interests, and offer suggestions as their play changes over



TRY THIS!

Watch as a child explores, then add some math! With a baby, talk about the shape or size of an object they have in their mouth. With a toddler, trace and count the number of sides on each shape together.

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