

# Supporting Numeracy at Home

## Number and counting activities to try at home

- Start by focusing on number one to five, and then build your way up to ten.
- Don't forget - take turns! Let your child be the teacher.
- Talk about numbers - what number comes before 2? After 5? In between 6 and 8?

### COUNTDOWN!

Clap, stamp, jump up to a number, and then count back down from that number.



### Skip counting

Count to ten, but only say every second number. Tap your head for the other number. This is a tricky skill to master!

### Move a number

Pick a number and the child picks the action - jump, hop, twirl, stamp, squat, star jump however many times.



### Clap a number

Clap a number and your child tells you how many times you clapped. Get them to close their eyes or look away to make this more challenging.



### Listen to a number

Similar to clap a number. You could do this by dropping something noisy, like a coin, into a tin or a jar, or by stamping instead of clapping, etc.

### Missing number

Count to ten but leave out a number - get your child to spot which number you left out.



### Number Stealer

One of our favourite games in school. We write a number line on the board, from 1 - 5. Everyone closes their eyes, and somebody is chosen to steal a number (erase it from the board)! We open our eyes, and we have to figure out which number has been stolen.

### Rock, Paper, Scissors, Add!

You and your child each show some fingers - or zero fingers! The winner is whoever counts up all the fingers the quickest.



### Odds and Evens

Tap your shoulders and head as you count, so that your head is the odd number and your shoulders are the even numbers. (Even numbers are fair numbers, because you can share them out fairly between you and me).

# Numeracy activities from 'Maths tip sheet for parents of Junior Infants' - NCCA

## Match and sort objects

Match socks or gloves. Sort toys into groups by colour, by shape... Ask your child: *How would you sort them?*



## Recognise the written number 1-5

Pick a number for the day and look for it when you go out.

## Careful counting.

Encourage your child to count objects carefully by taking time to touch each item and saying the number name at the same time.



## Add 2 groups of objects to make a total of 5.

Ask your child to get you 2 apples, then 3 more. *How many altogether? How many ways could I share 4 cakes between you and your brother? How could I share them fairly between you both?*

## Recognise and make simple patterns

Play clapping games. Draw attention to patterns on clothes such as stripes or spots. Look for patterns around you such as on tiles or bed covers.



## Recognise and use coins up to 5 cents

Play shop. Price items up to 5c. Give your child a purse with some coins and talk about what you could buy. *Which coin is worth the most? The least? What can you buy with 5 cents?*

## Talk about time

Ask questions such as: *What do you do before you go to bed? After swimming? What do you think will happen next in the story? What day is it today? Tomorrow? Yesterday?*



## Compare objects by weight

Ask your child to help you to sort the shopping. *Can you find the heaviest item, lightest item, two items that weigh about the same amount?*

## Tell at a glance

The number of objects in a set or group up to 5. Play dice games. Match similar amounts of dots as in the game of Dominoes.

