

# Practical Ideas to Support Maths in EYFS



# Practical Ideas to Support Maths Development

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Today we will cover:

- Key objectives in EYFS
- Fun activities to develop each objective



# Practical Activities

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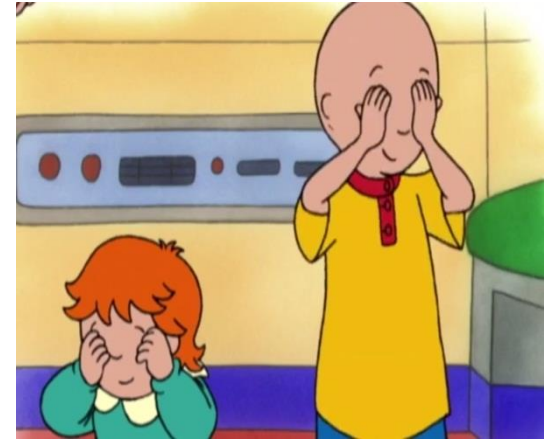
## 16 – 26 Months - Knows that things exist, even when out of sight.



When you leave a room, play instruments and make a noise so children are aware that you/a toy exists even when they can't see it.



Hide objects around the room and encourage children to look for it. This helps them to understand that even though they can't see it, it is still there...somewhere.



Play Peek-a-Boo with your child. This helps them understand that even though they can't see you, they know you exist because you keep reappearing. You can do this with toys too.

# Practical Activities

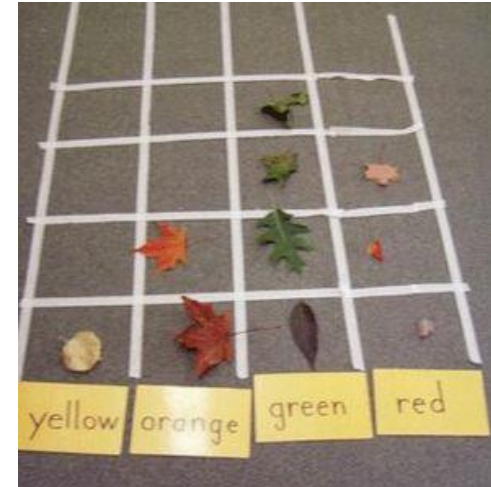
## 16 – 26 Months – Beginning to organise and categorise objects.



Give children lots of different coloured objects and some coloured boxes or plates. Children can sort the objects by colour. They could also sort by material, type of vehicle, animal, etc.



Collect objects of different shapes and sort them, based on shape or colour.



Go on a nature walk and collect some objects. Children can then sort the objects in many different ways, including item, colour, shape, feel, etc.

# Practical Activities

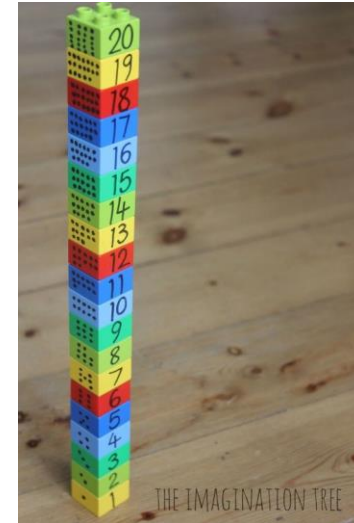
## 16 – 26 Months – Says some counting words randomly.



When walking or going up or down stairs, count as you do this. It will encourage children to use this language spontaneously.



When serving food, count out the vegetables for each family member. You could also do this when setting the table.



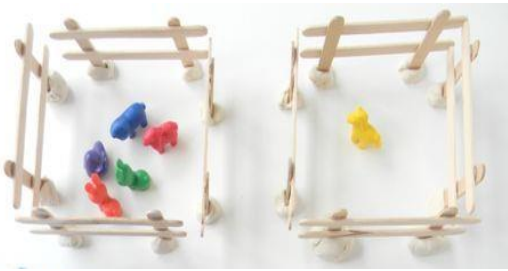
When children make a model, count how many blocks they have used. You could also count how many pictures they drew, how many dolls in the dollhouse, etc.

**Note: Counting at this stage will not be accurate. They will simply use the language spontaneously. It is unlikely to mean anything to them at this point.**

# Practical Activities

22-36 Months – Beginning to use language of quantity (more/less)

Knows that a quantity changes when something is added or taken away.



Using animals and lollipop sticks, create 2 fields and compare which has more/less. Add different amounts to each field and continue to compare.



Build Lego towers and compare which has more/less. What do they notice about the one that has more?



Let children experiment using cubes and balance scales. You can use any objects to put in the balance scales.

# Practical Activities

22-36 Months – Creates and experiments with marks and symbols to represent numbers.



Create a café role-play in your kitchen. You can encourage your child to make marks to represent taking orders. For example, to represent 2 coffees they may draw 2 lines.



Play skittles outside and set up a scoreboard to keep track on how many they knock down. Your child can represent the number they knock down in any way they like.



Children can often represent numbers in drawings, such as marks to represent numbers on buses, number plates on cars, etc. Encourage them to do this in their play.

**Note: At this stage they don't need to write actual numbers, simply a representation.**



# Practical Activities

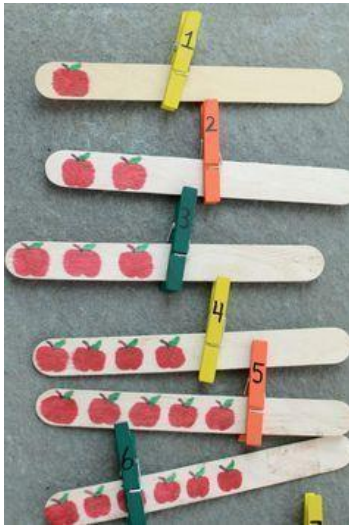
30-50 Months – Uses some number names accurately in play.



- This learning is much more spontaneous.
- You can encourage this by counting as much as possible when your child is around – count food, count money, count steps, etc.
- When children see you do this, they are more likely to copy.
- Praise children when they do use numbers.

# Practical Activities

30-50 Months – Knows that numbers represent how many objects in a group.



Draw or stick objects onto a lollipop stick, putting different amounts on each one. Write numbers on pegs and children match the pegs to the correct stick.



Write numbers inside an egg container and place pom poms in the bottom. Using tweezers (or hands) children put the correct number of pom poms in each hole.



Children can compare the size of numbers using balance scales, identifying bigger numbers by how the scales move. They can then count how many on each side.

# Practical Activities

30-50 Months – Sometimes matches numeral to quantity.



Write numbers in cake cases and children match the correct number of pom poms to each case.



Draw spiders on card and write a different number inside each spider. Children can use pegs to attach to the spider, ensuring they attach the correct amount.

# Practical Activities

30-50 Months – Shows an interest in numerals in the environment.

## Dot School NUMBER HUNT & MATCH



Hide numbers in a game, such as in sand or water and children can hunt for the numbers. Encourage them to order the numbers when they find them.



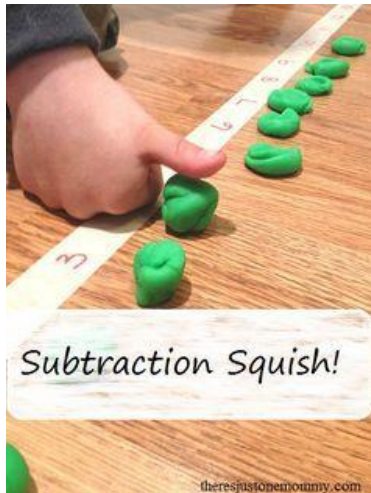
Place numbers all around your home or garden. Encourage children to look for them as they play. You could reward them when they find a number.



Let children experiment with numbers using different media.

# Practical Activities

40-60 Months – Counts objects to 10 by saying one number name for each item.



Children could count by squashing play dough each time they count a number. This is a great way to relate the action of counting to the numbers.



Thread beads onto pipe cleaners, encouraging children to count each one as they add it. This is also great for number recognition.



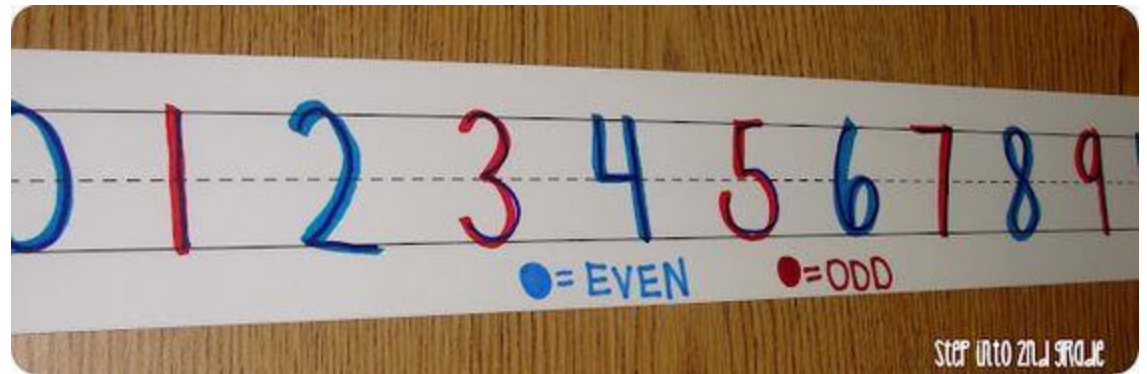
Write numbers in cake cases and children match the correct number of pom poms to each case.

# Practical Activities

40-60 Months – Counts accurately actions or objects that cannot be moved.



When walking with your child, count the steps each time you take them. You could also count jumps, claps, etc.



Give children number lines and encourage them to count along the line, pointing to each number as they count. You could also make a giant number line and they could jump on the numbers.

# Practical Activities

40-60 Months – Finds the total number of items in two groups by counting them.



Give children pieces of paper with numbers to 10 and a pack of dominoes. Encourage children to count the total on each domino and match it to the number.



Create 2 groups of objects (this could be any objects) and encourage children to count the total. You could set this out as a number sentence as pictured.



Give children a ladybird picture and place different coloured counters on each wing. Encourage children to count all of the counters to find the total number of spots.

# Practical Activities

40-60 Months – Says the number that is 1 more or 1 less than a given number.



Roll a dice and build a tower to match the given number. Ask children to add 1 more or find 1 less and count the cubes left to find the answer.



Let children decorate play dough with beads or sequins. Encourage them to count how many they have used then find 1 more/less.



Place a number of spots on 1 side of the ladybird and tell children the other side has 1 more or less. Children can then place the correct number of spots on the other side.

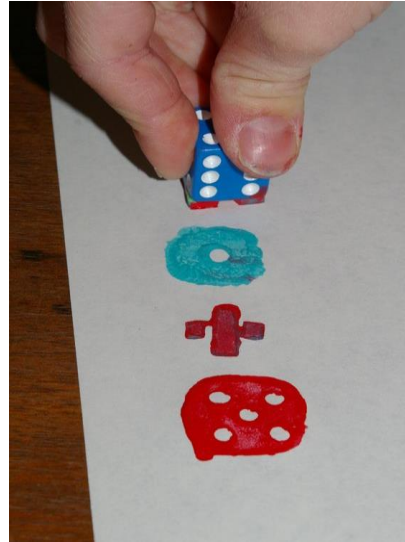


# Practical Activities

40-60 Months – Records using marks they can interpret and explain.



Play games with your child and encourage them to keep score of the game. They could do this in many ways (write numbers, draw lines, draw skittles)



Print numbers or number sentences using dice and paint.

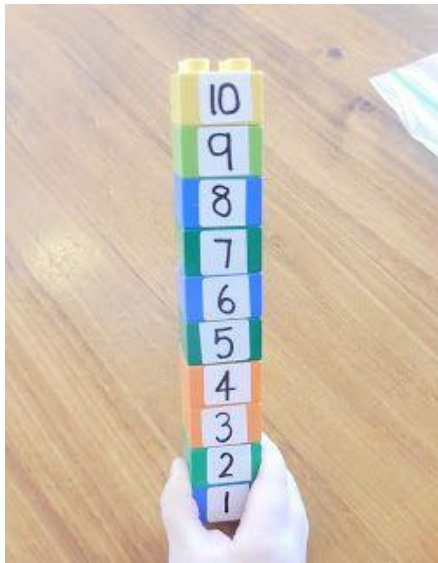


You could record numbers outside using natural materials, chalk, etc.

**Note: The key aspect in this objective is that children can interpret and explain what their marks mean.**

# Practical Activities

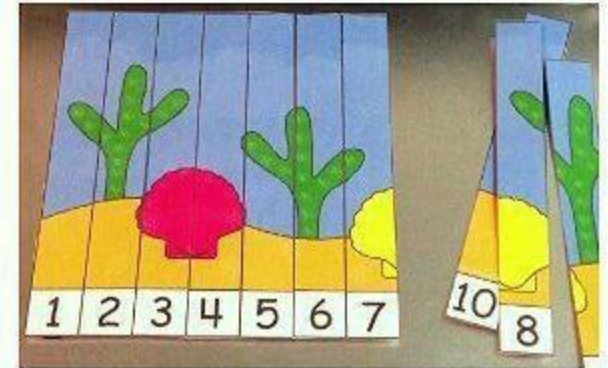
## ELG– Place numbers in order to 20.



Stick numbers onto Lego and let children build a tower, ordering the numbers as they build.



Write numbers onto lollipop sticks and let children stick different materials to them, matching the number on the stick.



Print a picture of your child's favourite thing, write numbers at the bottom and cut it up. Children will have fun putting it together by ordering the numbers.

# Practical Activities

ELG– Add two single digits together using objects.



Give children a domino and ask them to make a tower of cubes to represent the domino, using 2 colours. They can then count the total amount.



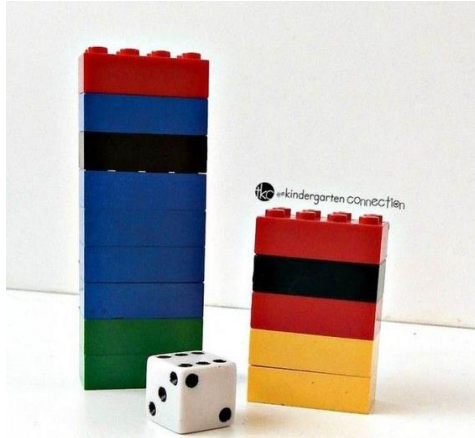
Create an addition game on your wall using cups, kitchen roll holders and a basket. Children will have fun putting amounts into the cups and finding the total.



Place addition sentences in cups. Children can add the correct number of pom-poms then work out the total amount by counting.

# Practical Activities

## ELG– Subtract 2 single digits using objects.



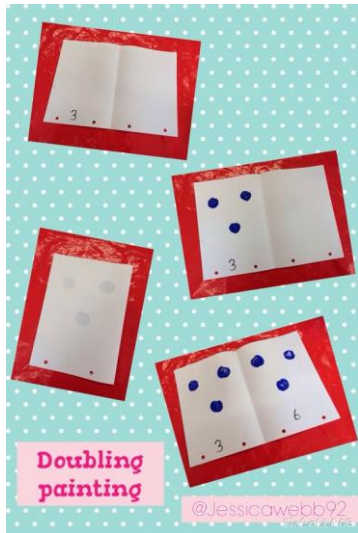
Children can build a tall tower. Roll a dice and ask the to take away the specified amount. They can count how many are left.



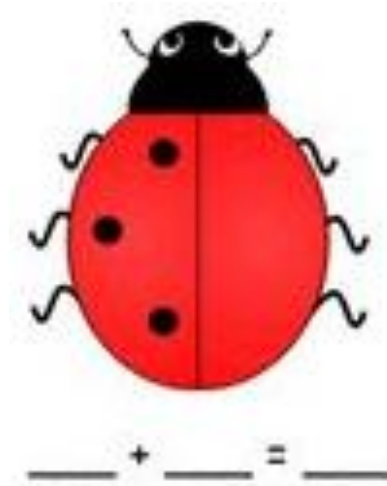
Give children a number sentence and play dough balls. They can splat the number they need to subtract and see how many are left. They will love to splat the balls.

# Practical Activities

ELG– Solve problems including doubling and halving.



Print a given number of spots onto 1 side of paper and fold it. The print will go onto the other side and children can count the spots to find double.



Use ladybirds and explain that the ladybird must have the same number of spots on each side. They can then count the total amount.



Place a given number of items on paper and place a mirror next to them. The number will be doubled in the mirror and they can count how many they can see in total.

# Practical Activities

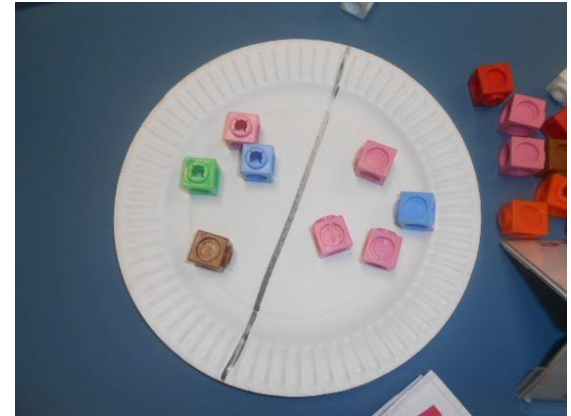
## ELG– Solve problems involving sharing.



Stick an animal on each side of a plate and specified number of sweets on the plate. Children can then share the sweets evenly between the animals.



Give children 2 hoops and a specified number of objects. Children will share the objects evenly between the hoops.



Give children a plate and a number of objects to share evenly.

# Practical Activities

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## ICT games and resources to use at home

- [Topmarks](#)
- [Nrich](#)
- [Crickweb](#)
- [ICT Games](#)
- [BBC](#)
- [Pintrest](#)
- [Twinkl](#)
- [Sparklebox](#)



**Thank you.**