

Support Your Child's Maths Over the Summer Holidays

The summer holidays give a great opportunity to keep maths skills sharp in fun and practical ways. Here's how you could help:

1. Use Real-Life Maths

- Shopping: Look at different coins. Let them total the cost of items or work out change.
- Cooking: Practice measuring and using fractions.

2. Play Maths Games

- Board games like Snakes and Ladders, Monopoly, Yahtzee, or Math Bingo.
- Card games like 21 or maths war (highest answer wins).

- 3. Practise telling the time on analogue and digital clocks: Y2 - half past, quarter past/to, Y3 - 5 minute intervals, Y4+ to the nearest minute

• 4. Get Creative

- Draw symmetrical patterns or use building blocks to explore shapes.
- Go on a shape hunt - which shapes can be seen in the house? At the shops? Outside?

• 5. Keep practising times tables

- Use TT Rockstars or other online games, count up in multiples of 2, 5, 10 (Y2), 3, 4, 8 (Y3), up to 12 times tables (Y4+)

We hope you find these ideas useful and enjoyable - if you take any photos whilst doing these, or any other maths activities, please feel free to email them to school so we can celebrate with your child.

Many thanks for your continued support

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Embedding maths skills during the summer holidays for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) can be fun, natural, and engaging. The key is to weave maths into everyday activities so children don't feel like they're "doing schoolwork." Here are some creative and practical ideas, organised by common EYFS maths areas:

1. Number

- Count everything: Steps up the stairs, shells on the beach, flowers in the garden, cars on a walk.
- Snack-time counting: "Can you give us 5 grapes each?" or "Let's cut this sandwich into 4 pieces."
- Number hunts: Spot numbers on doors, signs, buses, or price tags.
- Hopscotch with numbers: Write numbers on paving stones or chalk them onto the ground.
- Ice lolly stick numbers: Write numbers on sticks and use them for ordering or matching games.

2. Addition & Subtraction

- Play shops: Use real or play money and simple items to 'buy' and 'sell'.
- Toy maths: "You have 3 cars, and I give you 2 more. How many now?"
- Nature maths: "We picked 4 daisies and 3 dandelions. How many flowers do we have?"
- Cooking together: "We need 2 eggs and 3 spoons of sugar. How many items altogether?"

3. Measures, Shape & Space

- Baking: Explore weight and capacity using scales and measuring cups.
- Water play: Compare containers – which holds more or less?
- Treasure hunts: Look for 2D and 3D shapes around the house, garden, or on walks.
- Building with blocks or sand: Discuss size, height, length, and shape.
- Obstacle courses: Use directional language – over, under, next to, behind.

4. Patterns and Sorting

- Sort toys or natural items: By colour, size, type (e.g., all the red cars, or big and small leaves).
- Make patterns: With beads, pasta, shells, or even fruit slices.
- DIY bracelets: Use coloured bands or cereal loops to make repeating patterns.

5. Time and Daily Routines

- Days of the week: Talk about what you're doing each day.
- Time sequencing: "What do we do first in the morning? What happens after lunch?"
- Timers: Use a timer to see how long tasks take (e.g. "Let's tidy up in 2 minutes!").

6. Games and Apps

- Board games: Use dice games to reinforce counting, number recognition, and turn-taking.
- Card games: Snap, matching pairs, or simple number games.
- Maths apps: Use age-appropriate educational apps with parental guidance (e.g., Numberblocks apps).

Everyday Activities

- Gardening: Count seeds, measure water, track plant growth.
- Shopping: Count items, talk about prices, compare quantities.
- Cooking: Let children weigh, mix, and portion ingredients.

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