

6 SIMPLE WAYS TO GET YOUR CHILD READY FOR MATH

- 1 COUNT. Children love to count and everyday life is full of counting opportunities!**

 - » Count the toys as you clean up.
 - » Count groups of things, like grapes, allowing them to touch objects while they're counting.
 - » Count up to 10, then work up to 20, and beyond. Children love seeing how far they can go!
- 2 MAKE GROUPS. Children can count and recognize numbers before they understand what numbers mean. Have your child count everyday items and put them into a group.**

 - » Make a group of 7 Cheerios.
 - » Make a stack of 5 favorite books.
 - » Put 4 plates on the table.
- 3 KEEP MATH FUN! Play board games or card games. Candy Land, Chutes & Ladders, and Uno are all fun and simple games that teach math and so much more.**
- 4 FIND SHAPES EVERYWHERE. Once you teach your child to find shapes in the world around them, they'll have fun finding them wherever they go.**

 - » houses, buildings, road signs
 - » sandwiches, cookies, crackers
 - » in grocery stores, waiting rooms, at the park
- 5 MATCHING & SORTING: Kids can sort by shape, color and size!**

 - » Sort items from smallest to biggest, into groups of 5 and 10, and by color.
 - » Using everyday items, ask which one is bigger, heavier, shortest, longest, smallest. Ask which item is first, middle, third, etc.
- 6 Make math a simple and easy part of everyday life!**

 - » "Let's see how many steps we take from our apartment to the mailbox."
 - » "How many chicken nuggets are on your plate? If you eat 2, how many are left?"
 - » "Let's see if we can find 3 red cars on our way to school."

Believe it or not, children come into the world pre-wired to learn simple math ideas, including numbers, patterns, and making comparisons. By weaving simple math activities and conversations into everyday life, you can teach your child to become a problem solver!

Learn more at SCFirstSteps.org

