



## Learning to love mathematics

1 **Use objects** – fingers, blocks – so your child can see and count each object, one at a time.

2 **Play games** such as dominoes, snakes and ladders, card games or board games involving a dice with dot patterns. Change the dice to one showing numbers to help your child read and recognise numbers.

3 **Share fruit** such as mandarins with your child and add the number of pips you both have.

4 **When shopping**, ask your child to help you work out how many more items are needed, e.g. "I have six apples here, how many more should I get to make 10?"

5 **Count the number** of eggs in a carton. After some have been removed ask your child how many were taken away.

6 **Use empty plastic bottles** and a ball to make a game of skittles. Encourage your child to tell you how many bottles were knocked down and how many are still standing after bowling.

7 **Count the number** of things in a collection such as shells or buttons.



8 **Fold paper** to make a hat or boat and talk about the shapes made as you fold the paper.

9 **Have your child** count as far as he or she is able to and then encourage them to join you while you continue counting.

10 **Help your child** to remember your phone number and to press the correct buttons on the phone.

11 **Play I spy games** and describe things by size and shape, e.g. "I spy with my little eye something that is big and shaped like a square."

12 **Collect coloured** scrap paper and some empty cans or small cartons. Your child can create a colourful model by gluing paper to completely cover the can or carton.

13 **Look for objects** inside or outside the house that are shaped like a circle, triangle, rectangle or square. Look for different sized shapes and shapes in different positions.

14 **Draw squiggle patterns** or make squiggle patterns from string glued onto paper. Colour inside the closed area.