



## Nunnery Wood Primary School

### Learning Activities at Home: The Early Years

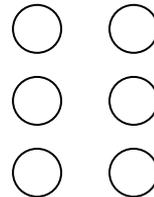
Here are a selection of activities that you can do with your child to support their learning in school.

#### MATHEMATICS

- ❖ Never underestimate the importance of **talking together**, discussing everyday events that involve counting, measuring, shapes, size, position, direction, patterns, numbers, time, adding up and taking away. Talk is an essential foundation for all learning and develops and increases children's mathematical vocabulary and understanding.
- ❖ **Counting and sorting objects** are good ways to reinforce learning at home - laying the table, sorting the washing, matching up socks, counting the stairs - the list is endless! Ask your child why they have sorted some objects a certain way. Let them tell you about the patterns and similarities they have noticed.
- ❖ **Notice and talk about patterns** - on wrapping paper, tiles, clothes, curtains, in nature.....make patterns together with beads, bricks, paper chains at Christmas, shells, leaves and talk about them. See if your child can work out what comes next in a pattern, or even test you!
- ❖ **Look at numbers in the world around you** - the numbers on the doors in your street, numbers in the supermarket, on car registration plates, birthday cards ... don't be afraid to point out big numbers, as this is a good way to extend children's knowledge of and interest in number.
- ❖ **Sing number songs and play board games** there are lots in the shops and they help children to learn to take turns and share as well as develop number skills. Dominoes and simple card games are also great learning activities.
- ❖ **Handling and using money** is a great way of using mathematics in a practical way. Counting and sorting coins, spending pocket money and learning about why change is given are all activities that extend children's knowledge of number.
- ❖ **Make models together** - using boxes and containers that would have gone in the recycling or just their own construction toys. This provides great opportunities to talk about size, position and measurement.
- ❖ **Sand and water play** - provide fantastic opportunities to talk about full and empty as well as counting how many sandcastles they have made, how many people can fit in their toy boat etc.

- ❖ **Play number stories** - Choose any number up to 10 and find lots of ways of making the answer using actual objects and moving them around.

e.g. 6 apples on a plate - move between 2 plates...



...and so on. This will help to secure your child's "number bonds" which are essential for future learning.

### OTHER AREAS OF LEARNING

Encourage your child's interests in any way that works! Here are just a few ideas that you'll almost certainly be doing anyway, but the opportunities are endless . . . .

- Cooking
- collecting and sorting objects and items, e.g. treasures from the garden, buttons, jewellery
- skipping, playing football, throwing and catching
- visiting places together
- construction activities - Lego, perhaps, or junk modelling
- cutting out, sticking
- painting, using playdough, chalking
- dressing up, acting things out - imaginative play is so important
- listening to music, singing, playing music - even a wooden spoon on a saucepan counts!
- Playing games WITH your child on the computer or tablet
- Treasure hunts

