

Mummy, I Want to Help with the Laundry!

DID YOU KNOW?

Early exposure to numeracy concepts through everyday activities at home can help to reinforce or extend children's learning of these concepts.

Before learning about numbers, children should develop important pre-number concepts and skills such as matching, sorting, comparing, ordering and making patterns.

It is more important to have a deep understanding of foundational concepts (e.g. 'more than', 'less than' or 'the same') rather than to rush ahead to do addition and subtraction or memorise multiplication tables!

As numeracy concepts are abstract, modelling the use of **mathematical language** helps children develop the vocabulary and language skills necessary for understanding numeracy concepts.

Such relevant and meaningful experiences will motivate children to learn and foster a positive attitude towards numeracy concepts.

Understanding relationships through matching, sorting etc. will help children understand the relationship between numbers in the number system.

You showed 4 fingers which is **more than** my 2 fingers!

Mummy, what are you doing?
Can I help please?

Sure! Can you find all your clothes and sort them?

Here Mummy, I put my t-shirts together and my shorts together.

Wonderful, let's fold the t-shirts first. How many t-shirts do we have?

One..two..three...We have five t-shirts to fold, Mummy!

TIPS FOR PARENTS!

Help your child understand that numeracy is part of their daily lives and model the use of mathematical language through everyday activities like:

Out and about – Encourage children to identify numbers, shapes and patterns in the environment.

Playtime – Provide opportunities for your child to play with shapes, sort toys, compare sizes of objects, play number games, read books with numerical themes and sing number songs.

Daily routines – Provide opportunities for your child to learn about time by planning your child's everyday schedule (e.g., play time, bath time, meal time, bed time) with them.

Cooking and baking – Involve your child in counting quantities and planning the sequence to bake the cake.

Grocery shopping – Involve your child in comparing items, estimating number of items in a shopping cart, and counting and paying for them.