

Sometimes, as adults, we lack confidence in our mathematical skills but we use maths every day in so many different ways that we should never doubt how much we can help our children.

Think of a bus ride...what an opportunity for maths activities that are fun and need no additional time or materials:

- * Count the fare you'll need
- * Look at the shape of the coins and what's written on them
- * Have we got enough or too much?
- * What number bus do we need?
- * What shape is the bus stop sign?
- * How many seats are on the bus?
- * Are there enough seats left for $\frac{2}{3}$ / $\frac{3}{4}$ people?
- * How many bus stops do we travel through?
- * Talk about prepositions-up, down, under, over, near to, beside, inside.

The list is endless. Make maths a fun part of everyday life. This booklet may give you some ideas but staff are always willing to offer further advice should you need it.

Help your child
at home...

Mathematics Booklet



Garretts Green
Nursery School



Maths is everywhere, all around us!

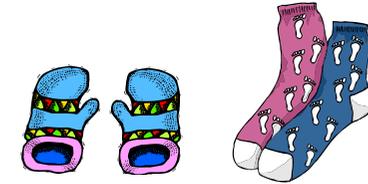
Maths is about everyday life. We can't do such things as shopping, cooking, telling the time, fitting flat pack furniture together, etc without using our mathematical skills and knowledge. Maths is everywhere and it doesn't happen just at school or nursery.

There are opportunities for children's maths development everywhere

- * In the home
- * In the garden
- * At the shops
- * On the way to school
- * At the park
- * EVERYWHERE!



Link to the story, 'Titch'. Talk about too big/ too small.



Match patterns and colours and make pairs. Peg them together on the washing line.



Clothes

Find numbers on t-shirts and tops or shorts



Sort clothes according to whether they have zips or buttons

Count buttons on coats and cardigans



Find /match pairs of shoes

Water

Talk about full, empty and half-full/empty



Blow bubbles-how many can you count before they pop? What shape are they?

Use plastic bottles, sieves, bowls, yoghurt pots, etc in the bath or sink.
Pour, fill, empty



Hunt for foam numbers in the bath.

Look out for shaped sponges and add those to the bath-time routine.

Maths is fun

We can develop a positive attitude to maths by making it fun to...

- * Count the steps we go up or down
- * Look at the house numbers or bus numbers while in the street
- * Set the table-how many cups etc do we need?
- * Match pairs of socks
- * Brush long or short hair
- * Look at how tall the flowers grow
- * Sing number nursery rhymes

The most important thing to remember is that it should be FUN!

Let your child help with mixing ingredients, baking and cooking.



What size pan do we need?

Count. Balance.
Add. More than...

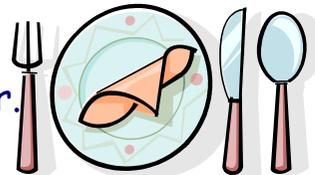
How many spoonful do we need to add?

In the Kitchen



How many pieces can we cut the cake into?

What shape is the cake?



Set the table for dinner.

Count. How many? How many more...?

Is there a plate for everyone?
And a knife, fork and spoon?

Time...talk about the sequence of events, what happens next? When?



Stories

'Pants' - a story that shows patterns.

'Goldilocks and the Three Bears' - counting, comparing sizes, sequence of events.

'The Little Red Hen' - weighing, measuring, counting and baking bread.

'Ten in the Bed'— Counting, one more, how many?

'Who sank the Boat'— How many? Heavy. Small.

'The Very Hungry Caterpillar'—Counting. One more. Days of the week. Size. Symmetry.

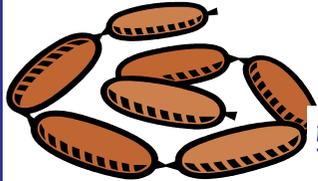
'Bring Down the Moon'—Time-day and night. Shape. Counting.

'Titch' - Size. Counting. Shape.
Many traditional stories can be used to explore a range of maths concepts.

Songs and Rhymes

Nursery rhymes and songs introduce maths in a fun way and are especially good for learning about counting.

5 little monkeys jumping on the bed... OR... 5 little monkeys swinging in a tree...



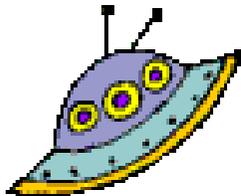
5 fat sausages sizzling in a pan.....

5 little



5 little men in a flying saucer.....

10 green bottles.....



At the Shops

What number is on the bus?

How much does a bus ticket cost?



The same or different?



Two the same is a pair. Count in twos.



Whole or half?

Is your bag heavy or light?



How much money is in your purse?



How many coins are there?

In the Garden

Don't forget to use the garden as a place to find opportunities for maths.



How many seeds can we plant in this hole?

What shape is the seed

Talk about 'long', 'short', or tall' when pruning and cutting.



How many bags of compost/ leaves/ rubbish do we have?

How many plants will you water?



Measure, count.

Look at patterns.

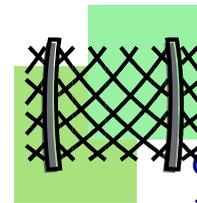


Find shapes and patterns around us.



What shape can you see in the brick wall?

Patterns and shapes



Can you see diamonds patterns in the fence?

What shape can you see in road signs?



Look at shapes and patterns in floors, windows, doors.

