Supporting Math at Home

PLAY-BASED STRATEGIES FOR YOUR PRESCHOOLER

Play is the best way to support your preschooler's math development! It engages your child and develops important learning approaches. This is also known as play-based learning. Play-based learning

- Promotes curiosity and abstract thinking
  - Adding and taking away blocks from a tower practices number sense skills and promotes abstract thinking.

- Requires focus and attention
  - Sorting and organizing toys during clean-up practices data analysis and requires focus and attention.

- Encourages problem solving and strategy building
  - Completing puzzles practices spatial recognition and encourages problem solving skills.

- Builds interest in learning
  - Singing and creating music allows for practice with counting and builds interest in learning.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT MATHEMATIC AND COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT, VISIT

- Center for Disease Control Developmental Milestones
- Math Skills at Different Ages
Play-based Math Activities

Sensory Play
- Add measuring cups or spoons to your child's bath or a sensory bin
- Make cupcakes with playdoh and count as you add cupcakes to a tray or candles on top

Pretend Play
- Set-up a pretend restaurant in your kitchen and practice writing numbers on menus or counting with dollar bills
- Explore height and length when building using a measuring tape or ruler

Music Play
- Sing and count along with fingerplay songs (e.g. Five Little Ducks)
- Make instruments from objects around the house then sort them into groups with similar sounds

Art Play
- Practice drawing on a piece of paper short, long, and intersecting lines with a ruler
- Find different shaped objects in your house (e.g. cookie cutters, blocks, sponges), dip them in paint, and print the shapes on paper

Ask Math Questions During Play
- "Can you make the track longer or shorter?"
- "How many candles does your cake have? Do you have more or less than me?"
- "What happens if I take two blocks away from the tower?"

Web-based Resources

Children's Books about Math
Discover children's books that have math concepts woven into the pictures and storylines. These will foster a love for math in your little reader.

Board Games and Card Games
Try one of these recommended games to make learning math skills fun.

LET US HELP!
We can provide one-on-one support, and we also offer parenting workshops. Scan the code at right or go to bit.ly/ccafamilies to get in touch!