

Tadpoles

Home learning

Hi everyone.

Here are some suggestions for things to do at home. One of the Tadpoles team will be checking in with you each week to see how you are and to see if you need anything from us.

In the meantime, enjoy some of these activities and keep safe.

Liz, Roxan & Chin

Links to the [Hungry Little Minds](#) resources from the Department for Education. These resources support playing and learning at home Simple, fun activities for kids, from new-borns to five.

Links to [LoveMyBooks](#), a terrific website, which gives lots of ideas around sharing books at home and having fun together.

Parents can sign up to the [EasyPeasy](#) App, which sends out regular messages with great ideas for playing with your child

Something Special - CBeebies – BBC <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/something-special> Using a sign language called Makaton, Justin and **Mr Tumble** help children learn how to communicate and develop language skills in a fun and exciting way.

Pinterest – full of ideas of activities for children of all ages. Type in toddlers amazing sensory activities etc

Fun activities to do at home:

- Healthy eating quiz or fun with baking
- Making puppets to improve communication
- Home-made musical instruments
- Number games and activities
- Songs and rhymes
- Exploring shapes (indoors or outdoors)
- Float or Sink (fun with water-based games)

1. Number Hunt in Jelly

The early years maths activity: – Learning Numbers with Jelly by Make Do and Friend

In a nutshell – First, spread out some plastic numbers in jelly layers. When it's all set, give out some tongs to children and show them how to pick up the numbers from the wiggly substance ([and practice their fine motor skills along the way!](#)). This sensory play is a great way of sneaking in number recognition to something fun and engaging for the children.

What you need –

- Jelly
- Bowls
- Plastic Numbers
- Tongs



2. LEGO Patterns

The early years maths activity: – [DIY Lego Pattern Cards by A Crafty Living](#)

In a nutshell – Good, old LEGO. Useful – [in so many different ways](#), here it comes to the rescue yet again. Prepare some cards with colourful blocks on them and let kids discover

colour patterns and reproduce them with LEGO blocks. Consider leaving the colouring part to your little learners [to include some EAD](#) a in the mix too.

What you need –

- Paper Cards
- Coloured Pencils
- LEGO Blocks

3. Missing Numbers

The early years maths activity: – [Missing Number Math Activity by Planning Playtime](#)

In a nutshell – Write number sequences on craft sticks and remember to leave some blanks in between. Next, you write the missing numbers on a bunch of clothes pins and give them out to your class. Now you're ready to let the kids use their fine motor skills and clip the pins on sticks. The best thing about this inexpensive early years maths activity is that you only create the props once and they're ready to be used as many times as you like.

What you need –

- Craft Sticks (colour or plain)
- Sharpies
- Clothes Pins

5. Straws and Pom Poms

The early years maths activity: – [Straw and Pom Poms Counting Game by Nurture Store](#)

In a nutshell – Label small containers with some numbers that you'd like your learners to practice and prepare some straws and pom poms. To play this early years maths activity, the kids simply put the straw on a pom-pom, suck in to try

and pick it up and drop over the containers until they've got the right number in each one.

- Labeled Stickers (or any paper, glue and marker)



What you need –

- Pom Poms
- Straws
- Shallow Containers

6. Do-a-Dots!

The early years maths activity: – [Number Dots and Easy Touch And Count Activity by Busy Toddler](#)

In a nutshell – Tape some parchment paper to the wall and write several numbers, each decorated with as many dots as the number. Now, kids can touch each dot with a do-a-dot marker and see the number and the quantity all together! You can also put the paper on the floor but holding a marker up and out makes this not only an activity for early years maths but also a good way to strengthen those little arm muscles.

What you need –

- Parchment Paper
- Sharpie Marker
- Do-a-Dots Markers

8. Egg Cracking

The early years maths activity: – [Egg Cracking Counting Activity by Modern Preschool](#)

In a nutshell – Create ‘eggs’ by cutting out oval shapes from cardboard and write different numbers on them. Let the kids identify the numbers and crack the eggs by punching the corresponding number of holes in them. This exercise can also help develop hand muscles.

What you need –

- Cardboard
- Hole Punch
- Sharpie Markers
- Scissors

9. Musical Maths

The early years maths activity: – [Top 10 Counting Songs by Super Simple Songs – Kids Songs](#)

In a nutshell – [According to the BBC](#) “When children are singing they are taking in information and training the brain but they don’t think they are, they think they are just having fun. Singing is an aerobic activity that boosts oxygenation in the bloodstream, increasing mental alertness”. We agree! Check out these 10 lovely songs to give it a go.

What you need –

- A Music Player