

Summer Learning Menu

Getting Ready for Kindergarten Mathematics

Know your numbers

Have your child know their numbers (at least up to 10). This means more than rote counting. Here are some activities you can do with your child:

- Place items such as buttons, dried beans, or toothpicks on a table and have your child count the number of objects. Notice how they are counting. Are they double counting an object? Are they skipping numbers? Are they saying the numbers quicker than they are pointing to the objects? These are all common mistakes for early learners in mathematics.
- Give your child a hand full of objects such as buttons, dried beans, or toothpicks. Ask them to make a number. For example, ask your child to “Make 5.”
- Use dot plates for identifying number of objects ([click here](#) for directions)

Reading Mathematical Literature

Read mathematical books! The state of California has a searchable database of mathematical and scientific related books for students. Many of the titles can be found in the Polk County Public Library system.

Play Games

Playing games where your child must move a game piece a certain number of spaces depending on the roll of the dice or spin of a spinner is a good way to reinforce counting and one-to-one correspondence in young learners. The board game Chutes and Ladders is a good example.

Playing some specific games helps build logical and strategic thinking. The following are examples of games that can help build this type of thinking; Chess, Checkers, Solitaire, Spider Solitaire, Sudoku, Hearts, Yahtzee and Mahjong.

Building toys such as blocks, Legos, and Lincoln Logs helps develop spatial sense.

Building jigsaw puzzles not only develops spatial sense, but also gives young children the understanding of geometric vocabulary of rotation.

Polk County Mathematics Team