



# FUN WITH MATH

Grow the Seed of Learning



# Natural Mathematicians

- Children develop math concepts and skills very early in life.
- Infants and toddlers begin to form ideas about math through everyday experiences and, most important, through interactions with trusted adults.



# Incidental Learning

- Using language throughout everyday activities, helps to develop a child's understand of early math concepts
- Examples: more/less, heavy/light, same/different, longer/shorter, empty/full, big/little

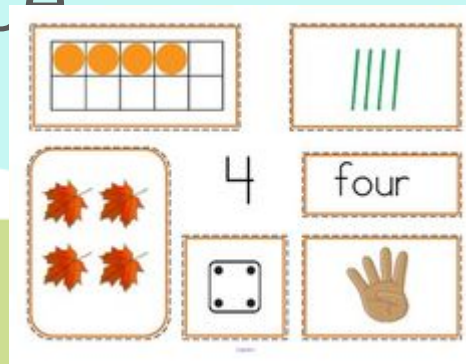


# Numbers and Operations

- Developing the concept of number, quantity, order, ways to represent numbers, 1:1 correspondence and counting

## Math Talk

- “Let’s see how many steps it takes us to get to the car.  
1, 2, 3...”
- “Help me set the table. We need 4 plates and 4 napkins. Put one plate at each seat.”
- “I have 5 crackers. You have 3 crackers. Who has more?”

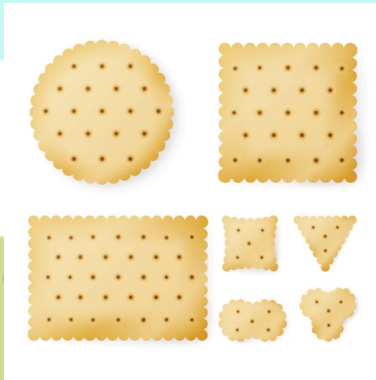


# Shapes & Spatial Relationships

## Math Talk

- Developing the concept shape, size, space, position, direction, and movement

- “Look, Jason went *under* the climber and Aliyah is on *top*!”
- “That blue truck is the *biggest*. That yellow truck is the *smallest*.”
- “Some of the crackers are a *square* and some are a *circle*.”



# Measurement

- Developing the concept of size, length, weight, quantity, volume, and time



## Math Talk

- “Let’s brush our teeth. I’ll set the timer for 2 minutes.”
- “This backpack is heavy with all these books.”
- “Happy Birthday! Let’s see how much you have grown.”



# Patterns, Relationships, & Change

- Recognizing and creating repetitions of objects, colors, and sounds.



## Math Talk

- “You have stripes on your shirt- „white, blue, white, blue...”
- “Let’s clap to the beat of this song.”
- “Let’s line up our beads – circle, triangle, square, circle, triangle – what would come next?”





# Collecting & Organizing Information

- Developing the concept of gathering, sorting, classifying, and analyzing information



## Math Talk

- “Let’s sort our laundry. Put all the socks in one pile.”
- “Let’s put the cars in the basket and the balls in the box.”
- “It’s snack time. What type of fruit do you want today?”





# Math Talk

We can make the math that occurs in daily life visible to children through math talk. Each day offers us countless opportunities to deepen children's understanding of math concepts. The more we talk math, the better chance children have to build a positive attitude toward learning.



## RESOURCES

- Early Head Start. (2012) Supporting Early Math Learning for Infants and Toddlers.
- NAEYC. Math Talk with Infants and Toddlers.
- Zero to Three. (2016). Help Your Child Develop Early Math Skills.

