

Maths at home

Supporting
your child's
learning at
Year 2

Talk together and have fun with numbers, shapes, games, and patterns

Help your child to:

- find and connect numbers around your home and neighbourhood, for example, find 15, 17, and 19 on letterboxes, which ones are even and which are odd?
- count forwards and backwards in 1s, 2s, 5s, and 10s starting with different numbers, for example, 58, 60, 62, 64, 66 then back again
- add and subtract numbers, for example, $53 + 21$, $29 + 9$, $55 - 32$
- find out the ages of family or whānau members and order them from youngest to oldest
- give step-by-step instructions on how to do something
- use language like certain, likely, unlikely and impossible when they are making a prediction.



Here's a tip: be positive about maths and show your child where you use maths. This will help them build confidence in maths. Praise their effort.



Use easy, everyday activities

Involve your child in:

- making lunch or a meal for a party or a hui. Make sandwiches in different shapes: Can they cut their sandwich in half? Can they cut the other sandwich in half a different way? Find out what sandwiches people like to eat: How many people like cheese, how many like chicken?
- sorting (washing, socks, toys, cans) while tidying up
- remembering and repeating phone numbers they might need
- telling the time using language like o'clock, half past, and quarter past
- a shape and number search together wherever you are, like numbers of shoes, shapes of doors and windows
- comparing how long it takes to do different things, for example the amount of time it takes to drive to koro's house versus walking to koro's house
- helping at the supermarket. Ask your child to get specific items (eg. 2 litres of milk, 250g of mince).



Here's a tip: maths is an important part of everyday life. Make maths fun for your child with practical, hands-on activities and games that you can do together.



For wet afternoons/school holidays/weekends

Get together with your child and:

- use maths words during play (treasure hunts, obstacle courses, building huts). For example, “under”, “over”, “between”, “around”, “behind”, “up”, “down”, “heavy”, “light”, “round”, “your turn next”, “before”, “after”, “left” and “right”, “square”, “triangle”. You can use your first language
 - play with big cardboard boxes using words like “inside”, “outside”
 - play games and do puzzles or jigsaws, “I spy something that is longer, bigger, smaller than ...”
 - do water play using different shaped containers and measuring cups
 - bake – talk to your child about the recipe/ ingredients and how many pieces you need to feed everyone
 - dance to music and sing/clap to favourite songs
 - make and play stick games with tī rākau or newspaper rolls
 - play with a pack of cards or dice
 - fold and cut paper dolls and other repeating shapes
 - make up addition and subtraction problems using numbers to 100
 - look at a calendar and ask, for example, “How many days/weeks until an event?”, “How many days in the month?”, “How many weekends?”
- trace over repeated patterns, for example, kōwhaiwhai patterns
 - encourage your child to look for patterns
 - make a play shop with priced items, and take turns paying with pretend money
 - take turns to make a simple structure with Lego or blocks, and the other person has to replicate it.



Here's a tip: the way your child is learning to solve maths problems may be different from when you were at school. Get them to show you how they do it and support them in their learning.

