

Starting school soon?

Some things to try for ...

Maths

Spatial awareness

Play and talk together using direction words like in, on, under, over, next to, into, behind, near ...

Set up some simple obstacle courses indoors or outdoors - and describe your child's movements

Involve your child in planning short journeys, or the route round a shop

Play with loose parts - beads, pebbles, sticks - any small items your child can arrange into patterns

Using numbers & maths

Model how to count objects - help them if they want to try. Don't correct mistakes, just show them how again, touching one object at a time as you say the word

Count aloud when doing everyday tasks - laying the table, finding change ...

Baking & cooking together is great for measuring

Play with your child sorting objects (laundry? recycling?) or putting in size order

Maths language

Play & talk with your child - look for chances to use maths words - big, small, more, less, enough, lots ...

When you are measuring, sorting adding or matching talk aloud - let your child watch and "help"

Point out numbers & shapes when out and about - street signs, prices, menus, anything!

Don't worry about ...

Counting higher and higher - it is more important your child understands what they are doing

Writing numbers or learning lots of number facts

Complicated activities - instead enjoy games & puzzles, taking turns, using dice - and talk about what you are doing

If you are nervous about maths yourself - just play & have fun and learning will happen