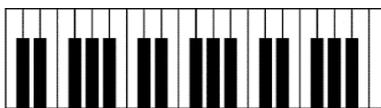


Daily tips for Learning at Home – Number XYZ



Patterns Everywhere!



Patterns really are everywhere and today you can help your child to see patterns in the world around them.

Before children can make patterns, they need to be aware of them so take the time to have fun discovering where patterns can be found in and around your home. You may be surprised by how many patterns you find!

What do I need?

You may want to have a look around your house to see what patterns you can encourage your child to find.

A variety of everyday objects in different shapes, sizes and colours to make patterns with. You can choose a couple from this list:

- Coins
- Construction toys – blocks, Duplo, Lego
- Cones
- Leaves
- Stones
- Playing cards
- Coloured clothes pegs
- Pieces of fruit

What will we learn from this?

- How many patterns there are in the world around us.
- The words to name different patterns.
- How to predict what comes next.
- Sequencing
- Fine motor skills

What do we do?

- Start by discovering all the patterns that can be found in and around your home with your child, such as patterns on clothes, wallpaper, floor coverings, crockery – and even ripples in the bath!
- Remember to look outside where nature provides lots of patterns on flowers, leaves and trees. In winter your child will be able to see beautiful snowflake patterns and patterns made by frost.
- When you're chatting to your child, use the names of the patterns, such as spotty, stripy, zigzag, checked and flowery.
- Encourage your child to say repeated patterns out loud with you – red, yellow, red, yellow.
- When your child is familiar with some of the patterns in and around your home and if he/she is still interested, you can play a game of 'Hunt the pattern'. Ask your child to find a stripy object or 2 spotty things. You can make this more difficult if you think your child needs more challenge. For example, find 3 blue and red checked objects.

How can we take it further?

- Try starting a repeated pattern for your child to continue, such as leaf, stone, leaf, stone. Now it's your child's turn to start a pattern that you can finish!
- Your child may want to start making their own patterns. This can be done in lots of different ways, such as: with pieces fruit when having a snack, using natural materials outside, drawing or painting patterns.
- You and your child could explore making patterns using different types of objects, colours, sizes and shapes – see examples in the 'What do I need?' box.
- Encourage your child to take photos of their patterns to share with friends and family.

Play & talk together
Be careful with too many questions

Pause and wait for your child to respond
Copy what they say and add to it