

Make Believe With MATH

Educator Resources

Math Talk

You can make any moment a math moment by using “math talk”—the language of math! Below you will find math words and phrases, organized by math concept, to use with young children ages 2–5 to help develop their math knowledge.

<p>ENUMERATION: Counting each object and recognizing the last number is the total</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • how many • count to check how many • how many all together • how many are left 	<p>ONE-TO-ONE CORRESPONDENCE: Matching one object to one corresponding number or object</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • each • same amount • different amount • same number of • different number of • fewer than • more than 	<p>ADDITION AND SUBTRACTION: Putting together and taking away objects from a set, and counting the total number all together or how many are left</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • how many all together • how many more • how many left • take away • add • more than • fewer than • less than • subtract 	<p>GEOMETRIC FORMS: Basic 2D shapes (circle, square, rectangle, triangle, rhombus), and 3D shapes (sphere, cube, cylinder, cone) and how they are different (angles, sides, faces)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • shape • sides • faces • corners • angles • length • match • size • straight • round • equal • same
<p>SPATIAL RELATIONS: Placement of objects in relation to others</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • near/far • in front of/behind • over/under • top/bottom • low/high • upside down • in between • forward/backward • rotate • inside/outside 	<p>MEASUREMENT: Using informal and formal units to measure objects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • let's measure how tall, how wide, how long • which is taller, wider, longer • height • width • few/fewer/fewest • more/most • guess • let's check • estimate • longer than • shorter than 	<p>PATTERNS: A sequence that repeats at least twice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • pattern • let's make a pattern • what comes next • how did you know • let's check 	<p>RELATIONAL CONCEPTS: Comparing and differentiating between objects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • big/bigger/biggest • small/smaller/smallest • short/shorter/shortest • tall/taller/tallest • long/longer/longest • fast/faster/fastest • slow/slower/slowest • same/different • open/close

