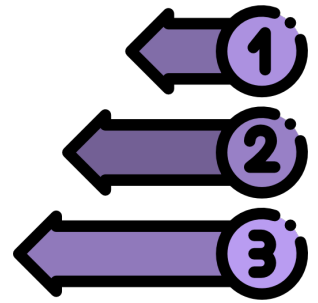


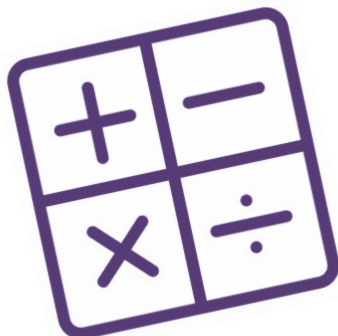
# HOME-MADE MATH

Let's count around the house



Helping your preschooler pick up numeracy and math skills can be as easy as 1, 2, 3. That's because math is involved in almost every household activity.

- + Have your preschooler help sort the socks on laundry day or count out teaspoonfuls of salt or sugar or oil as you cook, or hand you the screws, nuts, and bolts as you make a repair.
- + Look for shapes in the house: windows are square, a block of cheese can be triangular. A ball, of course, is round. When you are finished around the house, go for a walk and check out the shapes in the world outside.
- + Count steps with your child as you go up to the bedroom, outside to the mailbox, or from the car to the door of the grocery store or grandma's house.
- + Use a bar graph to keep track of your children's growth, height, and weight.
- + Play hopscotch or horseshoes or "midway" games: Stack a pile of empty pop cans on a platform and see how many each child can knock off with a ball in three tries. Line up some bottles and see how many coins each child can toss in with 10 tries.
- + Make a water-glass xylophone. Measure increasing volumes of water into identical water glasses, use drops of food colouring\* to make the water in each glass a different shade, and then gently tap with a spoon. Your child will learn that there's a mathematical relationship between volume and vibration. A budding musician!



\* **Don't drink the water!**

