

# SURBITON HILL

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# NURSERY SCHOOL

## Maths at SHNS

In the EYFS, Maths comes under 2 different strands; Number and Shape, Space and Measure.

**Number** has three roles:

Cardinal: exploring how many there are – using 1:1 correspondence, subitising, or adding 2 groups together

Ordinal: representing number order

Nominal: represents a name – the last number labels the whole group

Shape, Space and Measure explores length, volume, distance, 2D and 3D shapes, positional language and time to name a few!

Below are some suggestions of ways to support your child build their mathematical foundations at home. Please talk to your child's teacher or key person if you would like any more information regarding maths.

### What do you notice?

**Explore** an amount of objects and discuss what you notice. Model this to your child – 'I notice 2 and 3, that's 5 altogether'. You can do this with a bowl of cheerios, or while on a walk in the park, noticing amounts of dandelions or daffodils. This is a great way to explore subitising as there is no right or wrong way to notice something. Some children may respond that they notice a colour, or a pattern, others may notice 1,1,1,1 and others may notice a 2 and a 2.

This will really help deepen your child's understanding of number and cardinality.

### Kitchen Maths

There are so many different ways to explore maths while in the kitchen at home:

- Cooking and baking – talking about amounts, weighing ingredients, counting cake cases, using the cooker timer, discussing the shapes of items used in the kitchen
- Laying the table – finding out how many people and counting out the right amount of cutlery
- Sorting the washing – finding pairs of socks, sorting into different piles, using matching pegs to hang up the washing
- Creating a shopping list – encourage and model using marks to represent items needed at the shop and your child will be keen to help you with this. Be sure to take your list to the shop with you and support your child in using it to find the items needed!

### Skittles

Using toilet roll tubes and a ball – skittles is a great way to make exploring number fun and engaging.

Take turns to use the ball to knock the skittles down. Use 1:1 correspondence or subitising to count how many you have knocked down, or how many are left standing.

You can even record your scores by making a tally for each skittle knocked down.

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## Measuring Games

- Use footsteps to measure distances in the garden or the park
- Use blocks or similar sized objects to measure items in the house
- Explore tape measures or rulers, discussing the numbers and modelling mathematical language
- Compare sizes of teddies, fruit, or even family members – can you put them in order of size?

## Sticks

Collect different length **sticks** – compare them to the length of your forearms – is it longer or shorter, thicker or thinner? Explore how many sticks there are and share them out between you – what happens if there are 5 sticks and 2 people – how can you share them fairly? Play a game of Pooh sticks – whose stick is the fastest or slowest, which one comes first, second or third?

## Tree Climbing

### Climb a tree!

- Explore positional language such as above, on, under, through, over and up!
- Encourage your child to describe your position on the tree too!

## Make a nature crown

### Collect some natural objects.

Use some paper to make a crown and use sticky back tape to stick around the crown. Encourage your child to place the objects on the crown in a pattern – eg dandelion, daisy, leaf, dandelion, daisy, leaf – wondering which object will come next in the pattern

## Obstacle Course

You could create an obstacle course in the living room using cushions, blankets and other household objects. Use positional language as your child completes the course. Use the timer on a phone, or count how long it takes your child to complete the course. Can they make a tally each time they complete the course?

## Number Hunt

### Go for a walk in your local area

Look all around for numbers. They could be on front doors, number plates of cars, post boxes or shop sign. You could take a piece of paper with numerals written on, and then mark off when you have spotted one of the numbers.