

Maths Groups

Maths plays a key role in a every child's development. Very young children are naturally curious, noticing differences in quantity and the shape of objects. Understanding maths helps children make sense of the world around them, interpret situations, and solve problems in everyday life, whether that's understanding time, sharing food with their peers, or counting in play.

During our weekly maths groups, we provide useful concrete everyday objects such as pine cones and buttons, and maths resources like interlocking cubes and building blocks, to help children develop maths concepts. Using physical whole-body movement and gestures supports the learning of mathematics, for example the use of fingers for counting, moving along a physical number line, or jumping and clapping while counting. By encouraging the children to see the amount of something rather than only seeing the object, helps our children to develop the habit of quantifying small groups of objects.

We use story and picture books as a powerful tool for engaging children with basic maths concepts. One example is asking children to look for patterns and shapes in illustrations in a story and match them to those in our shape box. We also play board games to support development and understanding of numbers. Our giant 'Snakes and Ladders' is one example of a game that can support young children's understanding of numbers, as the numbers are arranged in order and give children the opportunity to practise 'counting on' from a number, a key mathematical concept.

