

Ways to Build Number Sense at Home

Parents and Caregivers: this list is a starting place for discussions with your child that will build a solid sense of number, leading to improved math skills and confidence in math. Tackling one idea a day or a few a week is a good pace for strengthening understanding. You could talk about these in the car, in the check-out line, at the dinner table, or while waiting for brother to put his coat on. If your child struggles with an item, do more items like it until it becomes more familiar. Thank you for being an important part of your child's math education!

1. How many days this month? Next month?
2. How many Mondays in the month? How many Fridays?
3. What is missing? First, _____, _____, fourth, _____.
4. How many chairs are in the house?
5. How many chair legs?
6. Get 2 coins. How much are they each worth? Together?
7. What is today's date? How many days until the next 16th?
8. Count backward from 100 by 10s.
9. Look in your fridge. Estimate how many items are inside.
10. What is missing? 19, 21, __, __, 27, 29, __, __, __, 37
11. Draw a shape with five sides of all different lengths.
12. Count to 55 by 5s, starting at 15.
13. Name a fraction that comes between $\frac{1}{2}$ and 1. Use measuring cups for ideas.
14. When is 22 a lot? When is it only a little?
15. What number comes before? __, 122 __, 187 __, 61
16. What's the total number of fingers in your family?
17. Estimate the number of shoes in the house. Count to check.
18. Are there more doors or windows in the house?
19. Are there more adults or kids at your school?
20. Get 10 coins. What are they?
21. Count backward from 30, skipping 17 and 7.
22. Count from 14 to 45, skipping all numbers that have a 9.
23. Pretend you have a sister 2 years younger than you. How old will she be when you are 16?
24. Estimate the number of rooms in your house. Count to find out.
25. Get a handful of beans. Put them in groups of 2. How many groups of 2? How many beans total?

26. Pretend you are a number. Give three hints, then have a friend or parent guess what you are.
27. Add 3 numbers to make 27.
28. When is 65 a lot? When is it a little?
29. What numbers come in between? 207____212
30. Start from 17 and count to 31 using only odd numbers.
31. Which is greater: 71 or 92? 10 or 12? 107 or 117?
32. Count backward from 65 to 25 by 10s.
33. Estimate how many beans will fill a cup, then count to find out.
34. Get a handful of paperclips. Put them into groups of two. Count them two different ways.
35. What day is the third day of the week? The fourth day?
36. Fold a piece of paper in half two times. How many sections will it have when you open it?
37. Fold a new piece of paper in half four times. How many sections will it have when you open it?
38. What comes next: 7---11---15---_____.
39. Draw a rectangle. Color half of it. Draw another one. Color it in half another way.
40. Get two pennies, one dime, and one nickel. How much money is that?
41. Pretend you are a shape. Give two clues and have a friend or parent guess which shape you are.
42. Tell three ways a penny and a quarter are different.
43. Collect and count a handful of quarters.
44. Estimate the number of spoons in your kitchen. Count to check.
45. What number comes next? 834,___ 268,___ 101,___ 119,___
46. Which is fewer: 36 or 25? 71 or 63? 98 or 89?
47. How many eyes are there on seven faces? What are two ways to find out?
48. Pretend you have a brother 5 years older than you. How old will you be when your brother is 23?
49. Estimate how many socks you have. Count them by twos, then pick a different way to count them to check your answer.
50. How many years until you are 20 years old?