



HELLO PARENTS,

Children use their emerging mathematical skills throughout their activities, experiences and daily routines, whether at school or at home. Math plays a major role in a child's development and helps them make sense of the world around them. Fine motor skills are the coordination of small muscles in movement, and gross motor skills are the coordination of large muscles in movement. These motor skills enable your child to perform everyday tasks. Incorporating math into fine and gross motor play helps your child not only to have concrete experience before learning abstract math concepts, but also to develop their fine and gross motor skills in fun ways. In this newsletter, we offer math activities that will enhance your child's fine and gross motor skills.

ACTIVITIES

INFANTS (3 – 18 MONTHS)

HEAVY OR LIGHT

MATERIALS:

- Different toys

DIRECTIONS:

- Lay the toys around your child.
- Encourage your child to crawl or walk around the toys and carry one toy at a time.
- When your child chooses to carry a heavy toy, call out: "Heavy". When your child carries a light toy, call out: "Light".
- To make the game more challenging, encourage your child to carry two toys to compare their weight.

[Click here](#) for more activities.

TODDLERS (19 MONTHS – 2.5 YEARS)

SHAPE ROAD

MATERIALS:

- Tape
- Toy cars

DIRECTIONS:

- Using tape, make large geometric shapes on the floor. These will be different road tracks.
- Invite your child to move their toy cars along the road tracks.
- Encourage your child to identify the shapes while they are driving the cars.
- Count how many cars can fit on each shape.
- You can also help your child create basic shapes using their toy cars.

[Click here](#) for more activities.

PRESCHOOLERS (2.5 – 5 YEARS)

SNOWBALL TOSS

MATERIALS:

- Old magazines or newspapers
- Two buckets
- Timer

DIRECTIONS:

- Scrunch up the newspapers to make "snowballs" and place them in one bucket.
- Place another bucket one metre away from the first bucket.
- Set the timer for one minute.
- Have your child toss the "snowballs" into the other bucket.
- When the time is up, ask your child to count how many "snowballs" they have tossed into the bucket.
- To make this game more challenging, increase the distance between the two buckets.
- Take turns playing this game and compare who tosses more "snowballs" in a certain time.

[Click here](#) for more activities.

JK/SK (4 – 6 YEARS)

THE HIGHEST OR THE LOWEST NUMBER

MATERIALS:

- Uno cards

DIRECTIONS:

- Divide the cards into piles that correspond to the number of players.
- Provide each player with their cards face down.
- Each player will draw one card at a time, look at the number on it and compare it with the numbers of the other players.
- The player who has the highest number takes all the cards and places them on a second pile.
- When the draw piles are done, let each player count how many cards they have in their second piles. The player with the most cards wins.
- You can also play this game with the lowest numbers winning.

[Click here](#) for more activities.

SCHOOL-AGERS (6 – 12 YEARS)

MATH DARTS

MATERIALS:

- Paper
- Sticky darts
- Marker

DIRECTIONS:

- On a large piece of paper, draw 10 circles, one inside the other.
- On each circle, write a number from 1 to 10 (10 will be in the smallest circle).
- Hang the paper on the wall.
- Provide each player with a sheet of paper and a marker to keep score.
- At each turn, players will throw the sticky darts two times, write the numbers they get and add them on their paper.
- The first player to reach 100 will win the game.
- To make this game more challenging, you can multiply the two numbers at each turn and the first player to reach 300 will win.

[Click here](#) for more activities.



Immigration, Refugees
and Citizenship Canada

Immigration, Réfugiés
et Citoyenneté Canada

A TIP FOR TODAY

- Encourage your child to count how many steps they take when climbing up or down the stairs.
- Play outdoor gross motor games like hopscotch and jumping rope while counting.
- Draw, cut, and make shapes with various materials.
- Encourage your child to measure the ingredients for baking or cooking.