



Math Games and Number Card Ideas

FLASHCARDS:

See how many numbers your child can recognize! Use number cards to help your child become familiar with numerals and their names. Hold up a number card and ask your child to say the number aloud, or even count objects around the house that correspond to that number. You can also ask them to match a group of objects to the correct number card (e.g., "How many apples are on the table? Which number card matches?").

THE "BRING-ME" GAME:

Invite your child to lay out the number cards. Then, ask them to bring you different numbers. For example, "Can you bring me the card with the number 3?" or "Please bring me the number card for 7." This helps reinforce number recognition and counting skills.

GO FISH:

Using two sets of number cards, try to collect pairs of the same number!

Deal the cards until every player has five cards. Place the remaining cards in a pile. Players will draw from this pile. Each player asks anyone they want if they have a certain card. For example, player 1 asks player 3, "Do you have any number 4's?" If that player has one, they must give it to the asking player. If not, they say "Go Fish!" and the asking player must draw a card from the pile.

The first player to collect all the pairs wins!

CONCENTRATION (MEMORY MATCHING)

Using two sets of number cards (start with just a few numbers), place all of the cards face down. One player flips over two cards; if they match (e.g., two "5" cards), they keep the pair. If they don't match, they flip the cards back over, and it's the next player's turn.

The player with the most matching pairs at the end of the game wins. This helps children build memory and strengthen number recognition.

NUMBER LABELING AROUND THE HOUSE

Write a number (e.g., "3") on a card and invite your child to gather groups of objects around the house that match the number. For example, place the "3" card next to three apples, three books, or three toys. As you go around, encourage your child to say the number and count the objects aloud. This is a great way to connect numerals with real-life objects and help develop their counting skills.

WRITING NUMBERS

Invite your child to copy the numbers onto paper, or trace them in a box of sand or rice. You can also have them trace numbers in shaving cream or write them with chalk on a chalkboard. Using play dough, they can form the numbers or write them using a variety of writing utensils (markers, crayons, etc.). These fun activities engage your child in number formation while reinforcing number recognition.

***Note:**

As children develop number sense, it's important not to focus too heavily on precision at this stage. For example, if you are working with the number "5" and your child says "there are five apples," but incorrectly counts them as "one, two, three, six," try not to correct them immediately. While accurate counting and understanding number relationships are important, these skills will develop over time. At this stage, focus on building their awareness of numbers, quantities, and counting sequences, rather than on perfection in counting or number accuracy.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10