

## Reception Class

### Helping your child with Numeracy

#### TALK IT

Practise **counting** to higher and higher numbers, and backwards too. Counting by itself can be boring, so encourage them to count things like steps, jumps, bounces, (good for competitions too!), or clouds in the sky, trees, crisp packets, lampposts, red cars, ants...anything!

Talk about the **shape and size** of objects – use the internet to find interesting size facts like tallest and shortest people, or biggest and smallest buildings etc.

Sing **counting** songs, read books and play games

#### PLAY IT

Play with **containers** – how many socks can you fit in the box? Which container holds the most sand/water/beads etc. **How many** sweets are in the jar? Ask your child to predict an answer and then do the activity to see if they were right/how close they were.

Pick an object and give your child clues to that object by using **directional language**: up, down, over, under, between, through, beside, behind, in front of, and on top of. Make the game more challenging: give two or even three part directions e.g. 'It's on top of the table and to the left of the magazine'.

#### SEE IT

Go on a **shape** hunt – how many **circles, squares, rectangles, triangles** can you and your child find?

Look for **numerals**...on doors, buses, cars, signs, at home, at the shops, on TV...anywhere. Remember to talk about what the numbers mean.

#### TOUCH IT

Play with things like shells, bottle tops, beads, - and **compare** them. These things are great for making **patterns** too.

Make **patterns** with objects, colouring pencils, paint or play-dough.

#### THINK IT

When they need to tidy their room, ask them to **estimate** how many objects are on the floor, then **count** them as they put the objects away – were they right?