

## Ideas for supporting your child's maths learning

A few helpful hints for supporting your child's early maths learning.

- Help your child count items around the home – e.g. tins in the cupboard, toys in the box or pencils in the drawer
- Sing counting rhymes such as 'Ten Green Bottles'
- Point out numbers in everyday life-on the front door, birthday cards or clock
- Ask your child to collect a specified number of objects
- Play games like snakes and ladders which involve using dice
- Practise measuring things in the home with a tape measure
- Compare the lengths and weights of objects
- Fill and empty containers
- Weigh ingredients for cooking
- Help your child to learn to recognise all the numerals from 1 to 9. Point out numbers you see in everyday activities, such as numbers on packets or prices, car number plates, house or bus numbers.
- Introduce zero, (0) as a way of describing nothing or none .
- Explain that there are no new numbers used when we want to write the number ten, but we use a '1' and a '0' together.
- Make a collection of ten shells, buttons or pasta shapes. Choose a number between one and ten and ask your child to find that number of objects.
- Use ordinary playing cards to develop the skills of counting and recognising numbers. Help your child to play simple games such as snap; count the symbols on the number cards, sort the cards into order, find all the tens, fours etc.

