

Foundation Class Maths Ideas

We hope you will find this information useful when you are looking for ideas and/or activities to challenge or extend your child's maths. We are not suggesting that you must follow our ideas, they are simply here as a guide if you wish to use it.

- 1) Talk maths – this is one of the easiest ways to embed maths for your child. Use mathematical vocabulary when you are out and about or simply doing household chores. **For example:** please could you pick up the book in front of/underneath/next to/on the left of...
- 2) Challenge your child's thinking – if they have solved a problem, ask them to explain how or why they have reached an answer, ask them if there could be more than one answer or how they will know if they have found all of the answers. **For example:** $5+3 = 8$; are there other ways to make 8? How many ways can you find to make 8? How will you know when you have found all the ways to make 8?
- 3) Make maths practical – children learn best through play and by using practical and fun methods to embed maths, your child will grow up thinking that maths is fun! Lots of misconceptions within maths can start because children think maths is hard or they can't do it. **For example:** link maths to your child's interests. If they are Lego mad, use Lego figures or pieces to solve maths problems; if they love nature, use animals to do this.
- 4) Read maths – children love to cuddle up for a story. Try to include some maths related stories and encourage your child to find and use mathematical vocabulary throughout the book. Suggestions for maths related stories can be found on these two links:

<https://www.scholastic.com/parents/books-and-reading/raise-a-reader-blog/10-must-have-counting-books.html>

<http://www.mathematicshed.com/maths-story-shed.html>

Useful websites for maths ideas

Please note that we cannot guarantee the content of any external website, so you should always check suitability before accessing them with your child

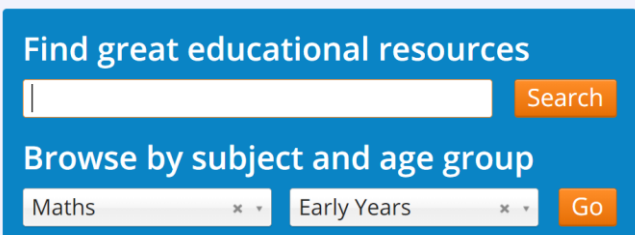
NRich – this site provides numerous ideas for activities which are designed specifically to encourage mathematical thinking and reasoning.

<https://nrich.maths.org/13371>

Top Marks

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/>

Once on this site, enter the information below into the search bar. This will generate a list of games suitable for ages 4 upwards, in fact many of the games are suitable up to age 11.

A screenshot of the Top Marks search interface. It features a blue header with the text "Find great educational resources". Below this is a white search input field with a blue "Search" button to its right. Underneath the search bar, there is a section titled "Browse by subject and age group". This section contains two dropdown menus: the first is set to "Maths" and the second is set to "Early Years". To the right of these dropdowns is a blue "Go" button.

Find great educational resources

BBC

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/topics/numeracy>

Oxford Owl – whilst this website is not completely free, there are many activities which you can access free of charge or without signing up to an account.

<https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/kids-activities/fun-maths-games-and-activities/>

Orchard Toys

https://www.orchardtoys.com/dept/maths-made-fun_d01119.htm