



## **You can do it! Parents play an important role in helping their children develop math readiness.**

- You need two things to help a young child with math:
  - The ability to count!
  - A willingness to do the same thing over and over. Children call this play; adults call it practice!

## **Everyday activities are a wonderful opportunity to talk about math. Math is everywhere!**

- Young children are just starting out their math journeys. For them, math is everywhere. Everything can be counted or measured. We can look at the shapes of everything and see the patterns in everything.
- Children are naturally inquisitive and open, and we can learn a lot by paying attention to what interests them, by asking them questions about what they notice, and by really listening to their answers.

## **Children (and parents) learn math through play, practice, and making mistakes.**

- If a child gives an incorrect answer, then count with your child. For instance, if you ask, “You have two crackers, what if I give you two more, how many will you have?” and your child says “Three!” then put down the additional two crackers and count together. “Great, let’s see if you are right: one, two, three, four! There are four crackers! Was that surprising?”
- Parents are learners too! If your child asks you a question you don’t know the answer to, model for them being curious and figuring things out.

## **Resources**

- Early math development: <http://www.zerotothree.org/child-development/early-development/supporting-early-math-skills.html#key>
- Math activities for young children: <http://www.pbs.org/parents/education/math/activities/>
- Tips by age: <http://www.pbs.org/parents/childdevelopmenttracker/one/mathematics.html>



**Math Books for Children Birth to Five**

Title	Author	Title	Author
<i>Best Counting Book Ever</i>	Richard Scarry	<i>Over, Under and Through</i>	Tana Hoban
<i>The Doorbell Rang</i>	Pat Hutchins	<i>Quack and Count</i>	Keith Baker
<i>Eight Animals on the Town</i>	Susan Middleton Elya	<i>The Right Number of Elephants</i>	Jeff Sheppard
<i>Feast for 10</i>	Cathryn Falwell	<i>Seven Blind Mice</i>	Ed Young
<i>Fish Eyes</i>	Lois Ehlert	<i>Shapes and Opposites</i>	Richard Scarry
<i>Five Little Ducks</i>	Raffi	<i>Shapes, Shapes, Shapes</i>	Tana Hoban
<i>Five Little Monkeys Jumping on Bed</i>	Eileen Christelow	<i>Ship Shapes</i>	Stella Blackstone
<i>The Icky Bug Counting Book</i>	Jerry Pallotta	<i>Splash</i>	Ann Jonas
<i>Inside, Outside, Upside Down</i>	Stan Berenstain	<i>Ten Black Dots</i>	Donald Crews
<i>Let's Count with Lowly</i>	Richard Scarry	<i>Ten Little Fingers &amp; Ten Little Toes</i>	Mem Fox
<i>Monster Math</i>	Anne Miranda	<i>Ten Terrible Dinosaurs</i>	Paul Stickland
<i>Moo Moo, Brown Cow</i>	Jakki Wood	<i>Ten, Nine, Eight</i>	Molly Bang
<i>Mouse Count</i>	Ellen Stoll Walsh	<i>Turtle Splash</i>	Cathryn Falwell
<i>One Duck Stuck</i>	Phyllis Root	<i>The Very Hungry Caterpillar</i>	Eric Carle
<i>One is a Snail, Ten is a Crab</i>	April Pulley Sayre	<i>We All Went on Safari</i>	Laurie Krebs
<i>Over in the Forest</i>	Marianne Berkes	<i>What Comes in 2's, 3's, and 4's?</i>	Suzanne Aker
<i>Over in the Meadow</i>	Ezra Jack Keats		