

## Activities using your number line

### Number detective

*You will need*

Nothing except the number line!

- Tell your child to pick a number on the line but not to tell you! They should write it down - to prevent cheating!
- You are going to guess their number by asking questions.
- They can ONLY answer 'yes' or 'no' to your questions.
- You have to try to guess their number in three questions or less!
- E.g. You play like this:
  - Your child chooses '7' but does not tell you!
  - Your first question: *Is your number further along the number line than 5?* (Your child answers 'yes' or 'no'. If it is '5' they still say 'no'.)
  - Your second question: *Is your number an even number?* (Now your child answers 'yes' or 'no'.)
  - Your third question: *Is your number written with only curly lines?* (Now your child again answers 'yes' or 'no'.)
- Keep playing like this until you have guessed their number.
- Then give your child a turn to guess a number which you have thought of. (You may need to 'assist them' with the questions!)

NB For the first few times you play this, you may need to guess your child's numbers, rather than the other way around. It is thinking of questions that's hard!

### Which two?

*You will need*

Raisins, biscuits or other snacks

- You choose two numbers.
- You add these two numbers and write the total.
- Show your child the total.
- They have to guess what two numbers you chose.
- If they guess wrong, you get a raisin.
- If they guess right, they get a raisin.
- E.g. play goes like this:
  - You write 7
  - They guess 3 and 4.
  - You say 'no!' and you eat a raisin.
  - They guess 6 and 1.
  - You say 'yes' and they eat a raisin.
- Now they choose two numbers, add them and write a total.
- You try to guess the two numbers they chose.
- Play continues like this. Who eats most raisins?

NB Encourage your child to try to say the total without working it out! We want children to memorise the total of two small numbers so they 'just know it'!

## Ten more

*You will need*

Nothing except the number line!

- Decide who will have a turn first!
- That person writes down a number. They do not show the other person! E.g. Your child writes 7
- They then add ten, and write the new number, e.g. 17.
- Their partner then points at a number on the line, e.g. 3 and says the number ten more, e.g. 13.
- The first person must say whether the secret number they have written is larger or smaller than the number spoken. E.g. You say 13 so the child says, 'larger' because their number (17) is larger than 13.
- You then try another number on the line, e.g. 5, add ten and say the total, e.g. 15.
- The child says 'larger' or 'smaller', according to whether their secret number is larger or smaller than the number you have just said.
- Keep playing like this until you have guessed their number.
- Then you have a turn at writing a secret number which they have to guess.

NB For the first few times you play this, your child can write the number and have you guess, rather than the other way around. It is the adding 10 that is hard!

## What total?

*You will need*

Some raisins

- Ask your child to choose a number on the line that is larger than 4 but to keep it secret. They write it down – without you seeing!
- You say two numbers, e.g. three and two.
- They add these two numbers and say the total, e.g. 5.
  - If the total is the same as their number, they must give you a raisin!
  - If the total is not the same as their number, they get to take a raisin.
- Assuming you have not yet guessed their number, play again.
- Say another two numbers.
- They add these numbers and say the total.
- Play continues like this until you have guessed their number!
- Now you write down a secret number and they have to choose two numbers to add.
- Continue playing like this!

NB This activity is designed to help your child to add two small numbers.

Encourage your child to start with the larger number and to find it on the number line. They then move their finger along the number of spaces indicated by the smaller number.

## One more, ten more

*You will need*

A coin

- You and your child each choose a number on the line.
- You each write your number.
- Take turns to spin a coin.
  - If it lands 'heads', say the number one more than your number.
  - If it lands 'tails', say the number ten more than your number.
- If you are correct in the number you say then you can score ten points!
- Now each person chooses a new number.
- Spin the coin, and play again.
- Keep playing like this until one of you has more than 100 points!

NB Saying ten more should not really be any harder than saying one more.

Encourage your child to see that ten more often takes us to a 'teen' number!

## Three in a row!

*You will need*

Paper and felt-tips

- You and your child both draw a 3 x 3 grid on your page.
- Take turns to choose a number from the line.
- You each write the number somewhere on your grid.
- Choose another number each and repeat the process.
- You are both trying to make rows or columns which add up to ten! E.g.  $3 + 2 + 5$  or  $4 + 5 + 1$  or  $3 + 3 + 4$ .
- You continue taking it in turns to choose a number from the line and write it on your grid.
- When you have each chosen nine numbers and your grids are full, look at each other's.
- Each person scores 10 points for any rows and any columns which add up to 10!
- Play again and try to do better!

NB Encourage your child to plan ahead. 'If I choose a 3 that will make this row add to ten!' This is mathematical reasoning.