

Ready for School!

Fishing Numbers

Math

Mathematics is not just about numbers. It covers many other concepts, such as measuring, comparing, spatial awareness, and awareness of size and patterns. It helps develop mental processes that enhance life skills, such as logical and critical thinking, accuracy, making predictions, problem-solving, and decision-making.

Mathematical Readiness

To deem a child ready for school in terms of math, he or she should be able to do some or all of the following:

- Count to 100. Count in 1s, 5s, and 10s.
- Know number symbols 1 to 100.
- Solve addition and subtraction problems up to 20.
- Distinguish between more, less, and equal, and many and few up to 20.
- Identify patterns in the environment.
- Copy, extend, and create their own patterns using shapes, numbers, and colors.
- Understand the spatial concepts of in front of, behind; on top of, on, under, below; in, out; up, down; and be able to verbalize the position of two or more objects in relation to each other.
- Recognize and name the following 2D shapes: circle, square, triangle, rectangle, diamond, oval, and star.
- Use words like day and night, light and dark, morning, afternoon, and tonight to describe the time of day.
- Show an awareness of days of the week, seasons, and weather.
- Know their own age and birthday date.
- Collect and sort object according to one attribute.

How to Play?

- Print and cut the cards. Attach a paper clip to each one.
- Place number cards on the floor randomly.
- Attach a magnet to a string with a stick simulating a fishing rod.

- Call out a number and have the student “fish” for that card using the magnetic rod.
- Repeat until all the cards are taken.

Teacher Tips

Use playing cards and buttons and ask the child to place the appropriate number of buttons on the shapes on each card.