

Section 5: Games and Activities that Reinforce and Consolidate Numeracy

Playing games provides good opportunities for children to learn about logic and strategies. For example playing cards and board games are good ways to encourage and develop children's numeracy ability. Playing, listening, watching and talking about games and activities helps develop, reinforce, and consolidate children's mathematical understandings.

The following list consists of games and activities that can be used for the community sessions or for children and parents to play at home. A description of each game and how to play it is on the nzmaths website at <http://www.nzmaths.co.nz/Numeracy/hspn/index.aspx>

As you read through an activity or game, think about how it could be made easier or harder to suit the needs of the children. A simple activity can be made harder by changing a few numbers. The bubble jigsaw puzzles are good examples because children and parents can make simple addition puzzles or puzzles using fractions, decimals, and percentages.

Teachers will probably be familiar with most of the games suggested below. You could help families set up a family mathematics kit at home by providing mathematics activities and games that they could take home and keep.

More games to support numeracy at home can be found in the "Families" section on the nzmaths website.

For counting, place value, addition, and subtraction

- Rachel's Millions
- Grab Bag
- On and Back
- Doubles and Halves Froggo
- Car Plate Numbers
- Dice Number Track
- Card Number Track
- Make 10 Circus
- Clock Maths
- Gold Mine
- Monster I-Scream
- Spider and the Fly

- Dough Numbers
- Bean on the Track
- Towers to 10
- Rocket to 7
- Difference Between
- Dice Add Up
- Action cards
- Your Choice
- Salute
- Memory (basic facts to 20)
- Horizontal Rocket
- Cover Up Kiwi
- Pile Up with 10 Frames
- What's Missing?
- Bubble Jigsaws
- Bingo Teen and Tys
- Cover Up Cars
- I Like Maths
- Doubling Using Finger Patterns

Other suitable games and activities on the nzmaths website:

- Rocket
- Missing Number Bingo
- Squeeze
- Traffic Lights
- Target 15, 287

For multiplication and division

- Multiplication Bubble puzzles (see bubble jigsaws in addition/subtraction)
- Start Unknown
- Kiwi Multiplication
- Motocross Multiplication
- Rocket Multiplication

Other suitable games on the nzmaths website:

- Four in a Row Multiplication
- Multiplication Madness
- Loopy
- Tennis Ball Multiplication

For fractions and ratios

- Fractions, decimals, and percentages bubble jigsaws (see bubble jigsaws in addition/subtraction)
- 0 to 1 on the Number Line
- Fraction with Dough
- Colour in Fraction Wall
- Decimal Rocket Blast Off
- Ordering Numbers

Other suitable games on the nzmaths website:

- Mix and Match
- Missing Decimal Bingo
- Easy fraction game
- Decimal Bingo
- Target 15.287