

Play is the most powerful way young children learn.

Every time you play, sing or read to young children they are learning about language.

By sharing this book and play activities with them they will have the opportunity to:

- Develop mathematical skills through play.
- Develop their mathematical vocabulary through sharing stories and songs.
- Use mathematical ideas to solve problems.

We hope these activities will provide you with a starting point for fun play with young children.

Engaging with Language and Literacy



When you read the story:

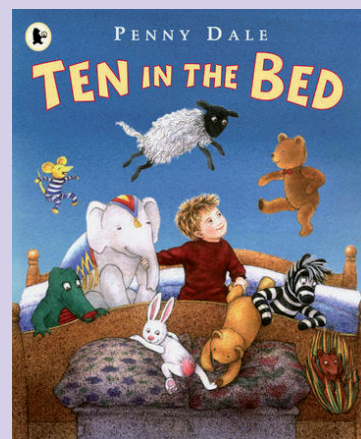
- Emphasise the rhyme and repetition. This will encourage children to join in with and remember the text.
- Give children the opportunity to read the story with you. Their enjoyment and enthusiasm is more important than getting all the words right.
- Encourage children to join in by letting them finish the rhyme.

After reading the book:

- Look back through the illustrations and use mathematical language to discuss who fell out first, second, third etc...
- Let the children have a go at counting how many toys are in and out of the bed on each page.
- Spend some time with the children looking at and talking about the other stories that are happening in the illustrations.

Retelling The Story

- The strong rhythm, rhyme and repetitive text make this an ideal story for the children to retell through imaginative play.
- With the children collect 10 toys. If possible use 9 animals and one doll.
- Place the toys in a row or make a bed out of a box and act out the story as you read or sing the words.
- Attach numbers to the animals so the children can place them in the correct order.



Ten In The Bed

by Penny Dale

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Page 1 of 10

Notes

Engaging With Numbers and Numeracy

Children need many opportunities to hear and practice counting.

Touching items as you count them helps children understand that numbers represent quantities. This is called one-to-one correspondence and is an important mathematical skill.

If you would like some ideas for developing one-to-one correspondence please refer to the ideas for Play School Come and Play Numbers by ABC Books, the Little Big Book clubs recommendation for two and three year olds.

Hand-drawn numerals 1, 2, and 3 in a simple, sketchy style.

Here are some fun ways for children to explore what numbers look like.

You will need a set of numerals 1-10 written on card for the children to copy and large outlines of the numbers for the children to work directly onto.

- Write in wet sand
- Write on a whiteboard
- Write with chalk
- Model them out of play dough or clay
- Write in shaving cream
- Stamp thumbprints
- Paint with water on outside surfaces
- Make with play dough cutters
- Place objects on an outline, eg, shells, seeds, leaves or buttons

Number Games

- Children this age will enjoy simple games that use numbers or counting.
- Try Snakes and Ladders, Bingo and Hopscotch.

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Enjoying Imaginative Play



Toy Shop

Use the imaginative play area as a toy shop.

Discuss with the children what your shop will need.

As you set up the toy shop with the children look at how many ways numbers have been used:

- Address and telephone number of shop
- Sign with opening hours displayed.
- Price tags
- Cash register
- Money
- Telephone
- Receipts

Toy Library

- Establish an area where children can “borrow” toys to play with for short periods of time.
- Use small sets of toys that are suitable for one or two children to play with and that can be quickly and easily packed up.
- Help the children make library cards and a system for recording what toys have been borrowed.

Sleep Over

- Set up an area where children can have pretend sleep overs with their friends and toys.
- If the weather is fine you could set up a tent outside or hang an old sheet to create a cosy space.
- While you are playing talk about bedtimes and other ‘times’ of the day. Use language that includes words like morning, afternoon, before, after, today, tomorrow, day and night etc...

Being Creative Through Play

Children develop mathematical skills as they encounter situations that encourage mathematical thinking.



Give children the opportunity to engage in mathematical thinking by posing realistic problems based on the book for the children to solve.

For example, can the children:

- Make 10 beds for each toy in the story. Each bed will need a pillow and a blanket and be the right size for the toy.
- Make one bed, blanket and pillow that is large enough for all ten toys.

Provide the children with 10 real toys to use or pictures of the 10 toys so that they have models to work with.

Number Collage

- Provide the children with old magazines, birthday cards, calendars etc... that they can cut numbers out of.
- Stick all the numbers onto a large piece of paper to make a giant number collage.

Number Stories

- Give each child an outline of a bed and 10 animal stickers or cut out pictures of animals.
- Encourage the children to stick some animals in the bed and some on the floor.
- What story have the children made?
- Write the children's story for them eg "There were 6 in the bed and 4 on the floor". Encourage the children to write or copy over the numerals and count all the animals in their story.
- Try this activity with other counting stories, eg, Five Little Ducks.

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Exploring Our World

Finding numbers and talking about what they represent will give children an understanding of the importance of numbers in our lives.



Classroom Number Hunt

- Write the numbers 1-5 or 1-10 down the side of a piece of paper.
- Make a copy for each child that wants to join in.
- Attach the piece of paper and a pencil to a clipboard.
- Walk around the room looking for numbers.
- When you find one of the numbers on your list the children can tick it off, draw a picture of the object or try writing the numeral.
- Take photos of all the numbers you find in your room and use them as a display.

Eye Spy Numbers

- Make a collection of everyday objects that have numbers on them.
 - Supermarket catalogues (prices)
 - Food packaging (nutrition information, weight, quantity)
 - Envelopes (house/building number, postcode, value on stamp)
 - Phone Books (phone numbers, page numbers)
 - Telephone (number pad)
 - Calculator (number buttons)
 - Clock / Watch (numeral display)
 - Map (grid numbers)
- Let the children take turns to spy a number. To make the game more fun let the children hold a magnifying glass when it is their turn.

Having Fun with Music and Movement

Children's natural love of music means that it is a great learning aide.



Sing the *Ten In The Bed* song.

Let the children take turns at using musical instruments to provide sound effects as the animals fall out of the bed.

Choose children to role play the parts of the toys and the little one as you sing the song. If it is easier to manage you can adapt the song to *Five In The Bed*.

Sing other songs that involve counting forwards and backwards.

- Choose children to act out the parts of the characters in the song.

This will give the children a visual representation of numbers, addition and subtraction, as well as being lots of fun!

- Try singing a familiar song using numbers from a language other than English.
- Make posters of number rhymes using the children's illustrations.
- Try the following number rhymes:
 - *Five Cheeky Monkeys*
 - *One Grey Elephant*
 - *Five Little Speckled Frogs*
 - *Five Currant Buns*
 - *Five Little Ducks*
 - *One Elephant Went Out To Play*

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Other books to try:

- The Biggest Bed In The World* by Lindsay Camp
- Time For Bed* by Mem Fox
- Cuddle Time* by Libby Gleeson
- One Bear At Bedtime* by Mick Inkpen
- Sleepy Bears* by Mem Fox
- Handa's Hen* by Eileen Browne
- Millions of Cats* by Wanda Gag
- How Big Is A Million* by Anna Milbourne
- Over In The Meadow: A Counting Rhyme* by Louise Voce
- Five Little Ducks* by Dan Yaccarino
- The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle
- One Woolly Wombat* by Kerry Argent
- Play School Come and Play Numbers* by ABC Books

For more book suggestions, tip sheets, nursery rhymes, songs and fun things to make and do please visit:

thelittlebigbookclub.com.au

Songs & Rhymes:

Five In The Bed

There were five in the bed
And the little one said
"Roll over, roll over."
So they all rolled over
And one fell out. . .

There were four in the bed
Etc. . .

There was one in the bed
And that one said
"Good night".

5 Cheeky Monkeys

Five cheeky monkeys
Jumping on the bed
One fell off and bumped his head
Daddy phoned the doctor
The doctor said
"No more monkeys jumping on the
bed!"

Four cheeky monkeys
Etc

One little doctor
Jumping on the bed
He/she fell off and bumped his/her head
Daddy phoned the monkeys
The monkeys said
"No more doctors jumping on the bed!"

Five Little Ducks

*Hold up five fingers and move to look
like walking.*

Five little ducks went out one day
Over the hills and far away

*Open and close hand to look like a beak
quacking.*

Mother duck said quack, quack, quack,
quack

Hold up four fingers.

But only four little ducks came back.

Four little ducks. . .
Three little ducks. . .
Two little ducks. . .

One little duck went out one day
Over the hills and far away
Mother duck said quack, quack, quack,
quack
But none of those five little ducks came
back.

Sad mother duck went out one day
Over the hills and far away
Mother duck said quack, quack, quack,
quack
And all of the five little ducks came
back.

Notes

