



## Let's play, learn and grow together



Supporting parents and caregivers with children birth to five years with early learning and development at home

### Look how I have fun with counting

#### LET'S DO IT AGAIN AND AGAIN

Young children love to do things they enjoy **over and over again**. This is the way that they learn. The next time your child asks you to read a book again, or wants to play the same game over and over, tell yourself that **it's a good thing!** It's good, because repeating stories, songs, rhymes and activities will give her the practice that she needs to repeat and remember new skills.

*This will help her to think quickly, grow confidence and develop the connections in the brain that help children learn.*

#### Today's shape is the STAR

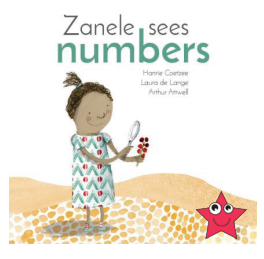
Show your child the picture of the **star** below. Help her to count how many points the star has. Show her the other pictures of things below that have the shape of a star. If she is old enough, ask her to find **5** small stars hidden on this page.



#### BOOK OF THE DAY

**Zanele sees numbers** is a story about a little girl called Zanele. There are numbers everywhere, but Zanele can't see them.

Download the book for free at <https://bookdash.datafree.co/books/zanele-sees-numbers-hanrie-coetzee-laura-de-lange-arthur-attwell/>



SOURCE: Bookdash

### Learning together is FUN

Here are some playful activities to do with your young child today (and other days too)

NEW



**ECDmobi** is a **FREE** application (App) that provides parents with ideas to support their children's learning through play according to their age.

It is fun, playful and based on the Department of Basic Education's *National Curriculum Framework for Children birth to four years*

You can find it in the **Google Play** (search for ECDmobi) or the **DBE's Cloud** at: <https://dbecloud.org>

Registering on **ECDmobi** is **FREE**.



#### Getting active in the morning

**Stop! Children love dancing:** Play music or sing a song and encourage your child to dance or move in whatever way he likes. Then ask him to **stop when the music ends**, or when you stop singing.

This will help him to develop his listening skills and control the way he acts as he practices stopping and starting. This is a very useful skill for when he goes to school and has to follow many instructions!

#### Younger than 18 months

Do a **hand-clapping game** where you and your baby clap once and then twice. You can then develop your own rhythm: one clap, then two claps and repeat this order.



This simple way of clapping teaches your baby about the mathematical concept called patterns. It is the first step to understand that there are definite ways that some things in the world work. Experiences with observing and making sense of patterns help your child become an orderly thinker.

#### 18 months to 36 months

Take an **egg tray** and put small objects with different colours (like buttons)

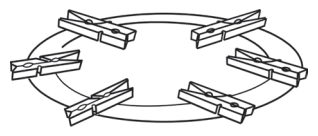


in each of the dimples. As you put the objects into the dimple, count the objects. When your child gets older, you can write numbers in the dimples and let him put those numbers of objects into the dimples.

Counting is a very important building block of mathematics. While talking to your child about the counting, let him describe the objects, for example, *This one is yellow*. By doing this, you are also helping your child to grow his understanding of words, which is also very important to his development.

#### 3 to 5 years

Give your child a plastic dish with about **six (6) to ten (10) pegs**. Let her put one peg at a time on the edge of the bowl while counting. She will enjoy doing this over and over again while counting. Praise her every time she finishes counting.



Counting skills are important when solving simple mathematical problems. When she goes to school, she will build on this counting to understand more difficult number structures.

#### For PARENTS ABOUT PROTECTION

During COVID-19 there are some women and children who could be more at risk to abuse and neglect. Let us work together to give enough care and protection from harm to all women and children.

If you need to report any incident that you notice, call **0800 428 428** or send "please call me" to **\*120\*7867#**.

There is also a Skype Line 'HelpmeGBV' for members of the Deaf community. The centre will then report this to the South African Police Service. Let's keep everyone safe!

**HEALTHY HABITS**  
Count everything! Have fun!

Remember to keep it **PLAYFUL** and **FUN**. That is how young children learn.

