



# Highland Numeracy and Mathematics

*Maths Activities  
in the Home*



**Maths Activities  
in the Home**

# Maths Activities in the Home



## Quick Links

These slides contain activities which do not need a lot of resources and they place maths into the context of your own home. Click on the text to be taken to the relevant section or just browse through the document:

| Level                                      |
|--|
| <a href="#">→ Across Level Suggestions</a> |
| <a href="#">→ Early/First</a>              |
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| <a href="#">→ Second/Third</a>             |



## Across Level Suggestions

| Daily Challenge   | Estimate...   | ...Then Count!  | Help with Cooking   |
|---|---|---|---|
| <p>Have a daily lego challenge. For example, build a spaceship / design a garage, build a bridge (how strong can you make your bridge?)</p> | <p>Improve your estimating skills by looking at objects in the house and guessing how many there are e.g. how many toys are on the bed? How many pieces of lego are in the box?</p> | <p>Find things to count! Count your steps as you move around the house. What happens if you take bigger or smaller steps? Count small change, paperclips, cutlery, windows, chairs, cups, pasta in the jar etc; Have no ceiling on your upper number limit! Did you estimate first? How good was your estimate?</p> | <p>Find a recipe in a book, or online. How many people is it for? What if you were to double the amount of people, how much of each item would you need? What about if it was for half the amount of people?</p> <p>Then help to cook the normal tea!</p> |



## Early/First Level Suggestions

| Help with the washing   | Measure   | Looking   |
|---|---|---|
| <p>How many items are in the washing pile?<br/>How many socks / pairs of socks are there?</p> <p>Link this to odd and even numbers</p>                    | <p>What imaginative ways can you think of to measure items with? Eg footsteps, handprints, pencils, etc;<br/>Measure things in your home according to your new measurement standard.<br/>Pick 5 of your items. Can you order them from biggest to smallest?</p> | <p>Look for numbers inside and outside your home. Make a note of where you see them. Why and how are they being used?<br/>Try to find 10 different examples. Present this information in a table, chart or diagram.</p> |
| Looking   | Colouring in  | Shape   |
| <p>Look at the pages of a book. Where are the odd numbers – on the left or right? Is it the same in every book? Investigate and report your findings.</p> | <p>Create symmetrical pictures.<br/>Or - Create a repeating pattern.</p>  | <p>Go on a shape hunt. How many different examples can you find of 2D and 3D shapes? What is the most common shape?</p>   |

# Maths Activities in the Home



## Early/First Level Suggestions

| Measure   | Number  | Time  |
|---|---|---|
| Ask your child to help you sort a cupboard out, putting heavier items on the lower shelf and lighter items on an upper shelf. If using food tins, guess which is the heaviest and which is the lightest. Put the tins in order of lightest to heaviest. | Find 24 small objects in your home (buttons, coins, matchsticks, etc). How many different ways can you find to make equal groups of the objects? Write down the combinations. Repeat the activity with different numbers. Are some numbers easier to find different combinations of equal groups than others? | Complete some timed challenges. How many star jumps can you do in one minute? How many jumps? Hops on left leg? Hops on right leg? Do you think you can beat your target tomorrow?        |
| Time  | Spatial Awareness   | Number  |
| Create a log. What time do you do things during the day. When do you have breakfast? Lunch? Go to bed? How does it change over the course of the week?  | Improve spatial awareness by building towers and structures. How big a tower can you make using old cereal boxes / milk cartons etc?  | Learn a new nursery rhyme together and talk about the maths. How many wheels are on the bus? How many were in the bed? When you start looking for the maths, you will find it everywhere! |



## First/Second Level Suggestions

| Time  |   |
|---|---|
| <p>Keep a log of how much TV you watch each day. Work out the total watching time for the week and the average watching time for a day (that is, the total time divided by 7).</p>            | <p>Use the television listings from a newspaper, magazine or the internet and create (cut &amp; paste, cut out and stick in, draw a table, etc) a table showing all the programmes on BBC1 from 9.30am until 2.00pm. What is the longest running programme? Which programme is the shortest? Compare the BBC with other channels.</p> |
| <p>Instead of watching TV, you could ask your child to keep a record of time spent eating meals, or playing outdoors, or anything else they do each day. Then work out the daily average.</p> | <p>Look at train or bus timetables online. Plan a fantasy journey together.<br/><a href="https://www.stagecoachbus.com/timetables">https://www.stagecoachbus.com/timetables</a></p>   |



## Second Level Suggestions

### Decimal Fractions – Real life investigation!

Where do you see or hear of the decimal point this week?  
Write a list of where you saw or heard the decimal point.  
Why was it being used?

### Create a board game.

Play the game with someone at home. What changes might you make to it to improve it?

If you don't have any card, you could recycle the inside of a cereal packet.

### Fractions – Real life investigation!

Where do you see or hear of fractions being used this week? Write a list of where you saw or heard of fractions being used. Why were they being used?

### Make a map of your home.

Look at architect plans, or schedules of houses for sale. Compare your house to that of others.



## Second/Third Level Suggestions

| Measure  | Measure  |
|--|--|
| <p>Watch the weather forecast for a week. What is the highest/lowest temperature you see? Pick one location. Keep a line graph of how the temperature changes across a week.</p>                           | <p>Make a rain gauge out of a plastic bottle. Instructions can be found <a href="#">HERE</a>. Put it outside and measure each day. Keep a bar graph of how it changes every day.</p> |
| Money  | Money  |
| <p>Explore websites of High Street banks. Which current accounts offer the best/worst interest rates? Calculate how much interest you would get if you put different amounts of money in each account.</p> | <p>Read through the following <a href="#">money saving article</a>.</p>  |



## Second/Third Level Suggestions

| Area and Perimeter  | Area and Perimeter  |
|---|---|
| <p>Perimeter = distance around the edge of a shape<br/>Area of a rectangle = length x breadth (width)</p> <p>Calculate the area and perimeter of items in the house, ie. table/tea towel/envelope.</p> <p>Look at surfaces which are not squares or rectangles. What strategies can you use to work out the area and perimeter?</p> | <p>Perimeter = distance around the edge of a shape<br/>Area of a rectangle = length x breadth (width)</p> <p>Calculate the area and perimeter of rooms in your house.</p> |