

Basic Foundations

Birth to Three Years — Mathematics

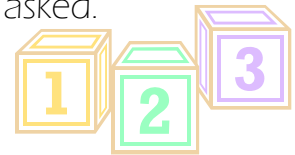
Infants and toddlers have a natural interest in mathematics and use it to make sense of their physical and social worlds. In play and daily activities, they explore and play by sorting, comparing and noticing the different shapes in their world. (Geist E., 2003)



Counting and Number Concepts

Young children are learning when they —

- * Indicate a desire for more—even the youngest of babies learn the concept of “more” food, play, and cuddle time.
- * Feed pieces of food to another person, pet or plaything—they are learning to share the cheerios.
- * Communicate when something is empty or “all gone” - even when they don’t want any more, they realize that there is nothing left.
- * Give 1 object when asked—and are able to give “more” when asked.



Adults are being supportive when they —

- * Sing songs or say rhymes that have numbers—playing “ten little pigs” with a baby’s toes lets the baby hear an adult count.
- * Offer objects of interest to count—while playing blocks, see how many you are playing with.
- * Encourage the child to point to and count things—favorite things could be the child’s fingers, legs, nose, ears and eyes.
- * Ask questions that require the child to think—how many blocks are in the bag?

Websites for Fun and Ideas—

www.liveandlearn.com

www.math.about.com

www.babybusiness.com



Based on the
FOUNDATIONS to the Indiana Academic Standards
for Young Children from Birth to Age 5
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