Planting Seeds



Maths skills being developed:

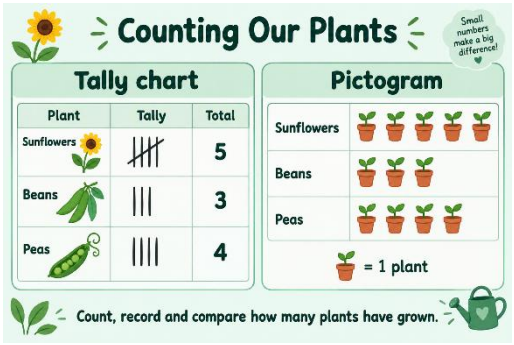
🔢 Counting

- Count out seeds.
- Count the number of pots used.
- Count how many seeds have germinated.

📏 Measuring

- Measure how deep to plant the seed.
- Measure how much soil is needed.
- Measure plant growth over time using cubes, rulers or tape measures.

📊 Data Handling



- Record how many seeds grow.
- Compare results between different plants.
- Create simple tally charts or pictograms.

➕ Comparing Quantities

- Which pot has more/fewer seeds?
- Which plant is taller/shorter?
- Which plant has grown the most?

📈 Understanding Time

- Track how many days it takes for seeds to germinate.
- Observe changes over days and weeks.
- Sequence the stages of plant growth.

🔁 Pattern and Sequencing

- Follow the steps of planting in the correct order.
- Notice patterns in leaves, petals and plant growth.

🧮 Number Sense

- One seed per hole (one-to-one correspondence).
- Recognise numerals when labelling pots.
- Explore numbers through counting, comparing and estimating.

Baking



Maths skills being developed:

⚖️ Measuring

- Measure ingredients using scales, cups and spoons.
- Compare weights and volumes.
- Explore full, empty, half-full and nearly full.

🔢 Counting

- Count spoonfuls of ingredients.
- Count eggs, cupcakes or biscuits.
- Count how many portions can be made.

➕ Number and Calculation

- Double or halve a recipe.
- Share cakes or biscuits equally between family members.

🍰 Fractions

- Half a cup of flour.
- Quarter of a teaspoon.
- Cut cakes, pizzas or biscuits into equal parts.

📏 Comparing

- Which cake is bigger, smaller, heavier or lighter?
- Compare the number of cupcakes in each tray.

⏰ Time

- Use a timer when baking.
- Discuss how long food needs to cook.
- Sequence events from start to finish.

🔁 Pattern and Sequencing

- Follow a recipe in the correct order.
- Identify and create repeating patterns when decorating cakes or biscuits.

💰 Money (when shopping for ingredients)

- Compare prices.
- Work out how much ingredients cost.

Jigsaws



Maths skills being developed:

🔷 Shape Recognition

- Notice straight and curved edges.
- Explore how shapes fit together.

🧩 Spatial Awareness

- Turn and rotate pieces to make them fit.
- Understand position and direction.
- Visualise where pieces belong.

🔁 Problem Solving

- Predict which pieces might fit together.
- Persevere when challenges arise.

📏 Size and Comparison

- Compare the size of pieces.
- Look for matching lengths and edges.
- Identify larger and smaller sections of the puzzle.

👀 Pattern Recognition

- Spot colours, patterns and repeated features.
- Use clues to identify where pieces belong.
- Develop skills needed for recognising mathematical patterns.

⭐ Logical Thinking

- Sort pieces into groups.
- Organise information.
- Use reasoning to make decisions.

🔢 Counting

- Count puzzle pieces.
- Count completed sections.
- Estimate how many pieces are left to place.

Shopping



Maths skills being developed:

💰 Money

- Recognise coins and notes.
- Count out money to pay for items.
- Understand that different coins can make the same amount.

🔢 Counting

- Count items as they are placed in the basket.
- Count pieces of fruit or vegetables.
- Count change received.

➕ Addition and Subtraction

- Add together the cost of items. E.g. £1 add £1 etc
- Work out how much money is left.
- Calculate how much more is needed to buy something.

⚖️ Measuring

- Weigh fruit and vegetables.
- Compare heavier and lighter items.

📊 Comparing and Sorting

- Compare prices.
- Find the cheapest or most expensive item.
- Sort shopping into categories such as fruit, vegetables and dairy.

📏 Estimating

- Guess how many items are in the trolley/basket.
- Estimate the weight of produce before weighing.

🔍 Shape and Space

- Identify shapes on packaging.
- Fit shopping into bags or cupboards.
- Organise items efficiently.

Playing Games



Maths skills being developed:

🔢 Counting

- Count spaces on a board.
- Count scores, points or objects.
- Practise counting forwards and backwards.

🎲 Number Recognition

- Recognise numbers on dice, cards and game boards.
- Match numerals to quantities.

➕ Addition and Subtraction

- Add scores together.
- Work out how many more points are needed to win.
- Calculate the difference between scores.

📏 Comparing Numbers

- Decide who has more or fewer points.
- Compare quantities and scores.
- Order numbers from largest to smallest.

🎯 Problem Solving and Reasoning

- Plan strategies.
- Make predictions.

🔁 Pattern and Sequencing

- Spot patterns in games.
- Follow rules and sequences.
- Predict what might happen next.

🎲 Probability

- Discuss what might happen when rolling a dice or picking a card.

⏰ Turn Taking and Positional Language

- Understand first, second, next and last.
- Use language such as *forwards*, *backwards*, *over*, *under* and *between*.

🧦 Sorting Laundry

Maths skills: Sorting, matching, pattern, comparing size, counting, sequencing.

- Match socks into pairs.
- Sort clothes by colour, size or family member.
- Order clothes from smallest to largest.



🍽️ Setting the Table

Maths skills: Counting, one-to-one correspondence, sharing, problem-solving.

- Count plates, cups and cutlery needed.
- Check everyone has one of each item.
- Work out how many more are needed if a guest arrives.



🚶 Going for a Walk

Maths skills: Counting, shape, measure, pattern, positional language.

- Count steps to the park.
- Look for shapes in the environment.
- Compare lengths of sticks or leaves.
- Follow directions such as behind, next to and between.



🧱 Building with Lego or Blocks

Maths skills: Shape, spatial reasoning, pattern, measure, problem-solving.

- Count bricks.
- Create repeating patterns.
- Compare heights of towers.
- Explore symmetry and balance.



🍕 Cooking and Serving Food

Maths skills: Fractions, counting, sharing, measure.

- Cut pizza or toast into halves and quarters.
- Share snacks equally.



- Discuss more, less and equal.

⏰ Daily Routines



Maths skills: Time, sequencing, ordering.

- Talk about what comes first, next and last.
- Read clocks and timers.
- Estimate how long activities take.

🚙 Travelling



Maths skills: Counting, number recognition, position.

- Spot numbers on doors, buses and number plates.
- Count red cars or traffic lights.
- Discuss left, right, near and far.

📚 Reading Stories



Maths skills: Counting, pattern, sequencing, reasoning.

- Count objects in illustrations.
- Predict what happens next.
- Look for repeated patterns in stories.

🌳 Nature Hunts



Maths skills: Counting, sorting, comparing, data handling.

- Collect leaves, stones or conkers.
- Sort into groups.
- Create tally charts and pictograms.

🛁 Bath Time



Maths skills: Capacity, measure, comparison.

- Explore full, empty and half-full.
- Compare different containers.
- Estimate and test how many cups fill a jug.

🎨 Arts and Crafts



Maths skills: Shape, pattern, symmetry, measure.

- Create repeating patterns.
- Make symmetrical pictures.
- Measure and compare lengths of materials.

🏠 Around the House



Maths skills: Measure, comparison, estimation.

- Measure furniture using blocks or hands.
- Estimate then count stairs.
- Compare the heights of family members.

Collect and Save These Household Items for Maths Fun!

🍼 Bottle Tops

Counting, Sorting by colour or size, Creating patterns, Simple addition and subtraction, Making number lines

🥫 Empty Food Tins and Containers

Comparing height and size, Measuring capacity, Building towers, Ordering from tallest to shortest

🧦 Odd Socks

Matching pairs, Sorting, Counting in twos, Pattern making

📦 Cardboard Boxes

Shape exploration, Measuring, Comparing sizes, Building and problem-solving

🥄 Plastic Cups and Containers

Capacity and volume, Full, empty and half-full, Estimating, Counting pours

🍝 Pasta Shapes

Counting, Sorting, Pattern making, Comparing quantities

🪙 Coins

Counting, Recognising values, Sorting, Adding amounts

🎲 Dice

Number recognition, Subitising, Addition and subtraction, Simple probability

🧩 Jigsaws

Shape matching, Problem-solving, Spatial reasoning

📮 Junk Mail Catalogues and Leaflets

Number hunts, Recognising numerals, Comparing prices, Cutting and sorting numbers

🥚 Egg Boxes

Counting frames, Number bonds, Addition and subtraction, Grouping objects

🥡 Takeaway Containers

Sorting objects, Capacity investigations, Comparing quantities

🪨 Natural Objects

(Leaves, sticks, stones, conkers, pinecones)

Counting, Sorting, Pattern making, Measuring

🎀 Buttons and Beads

Counting, Sorting, Pattern making, Comparing quantities

📏 Tape Measures and Rulers

Measuring length and height, Estimating, Comparing objects

🃏 Playing Cards

Number recognition, Ordering numbers, Comparing numbers, Addition games

Maths is Everywhere!

Children learn maths best when they use it in meaningful, real-life situations. Everyday activities such as cooking, shopping, gardening, playing games and even tidying up provide valuable opportunities to count, measure, compare, sort, solve problems and talk about mathematics together. 🌟